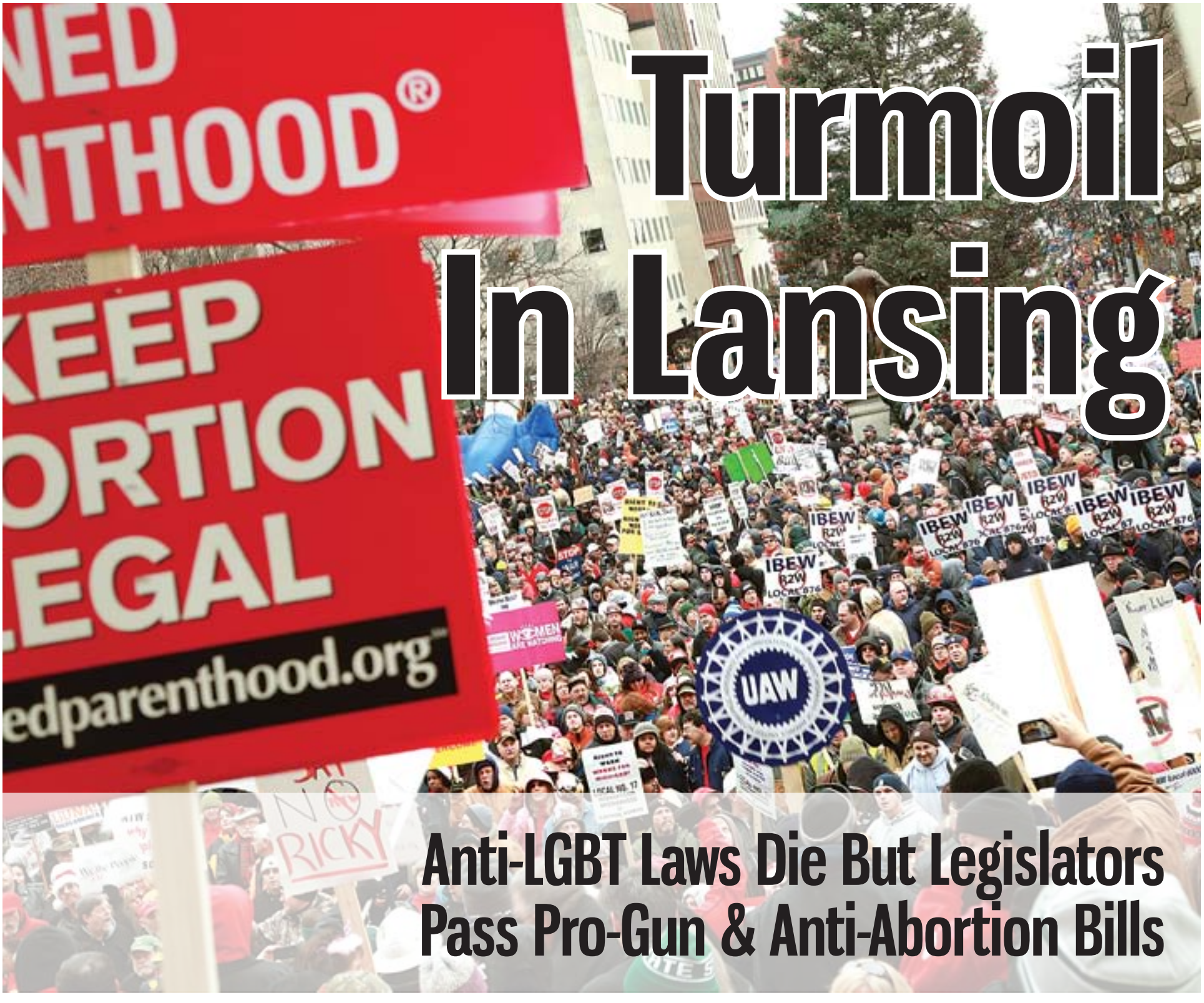
MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993

BTL Between THE Lines™

The Divas Issue

Barbra and Bette Chat!

Turmoil In Lansing



Anti-LGBT Laws Die But Legislators Pass Pro-Gun & Anti-Abortion Bills

FERNDALE'S FAMILY FRIENDLY DEALER!

EXPERIENCE BUICK
YOUR KIND OF LUXURY

GM EMPLOYEE PRICING TO AUNTS, UNCLES, NIECES & NEPHEWS!

GMC
"We Are Professional Grade"

EXPERIENCE LUXURY

2012 BUICK ENCLAVE
24 MO. LEASE
LEASE FOR $299* MO.
NOW $36,825*

2 YEAR BUICK LEASES INCLUDE:
$0 DUE AT SIGNING AVAILABLE
2 YEARS FREE MAINTENANCE
2 YEARS FREE ONSTAR W/DIRECTIONS - CONNECTIONS
2 YEARS FREE XM/SIRIUS

2013 BUICK VERANO
24 MO. LEASE
32 MPG
LEASE FOR $130* MO.

2012 GMC ACADIA
NOW $25,981*

2013 GMC TERRAIN
24 MO. LEASE
LEASE FOR $132* MO.

2013 BUICK REGAL TURBO
24 MO. LEASE
Premium 1
LEASE FOR $199* MO.

2013 BUICK LACROSSE
24 MO. LEASE
LEASE FOR $181* MO.

2013 GMC SIERRA EXT. CAB 4X4
LEASE FOR $83* MO.

2012 GMC YUKON XL DENALI AWD
WAS $61,615
NOW $46,938
SAVE $14,677

2012 GMC YUKON SLT 4WD
WAS $58,395
NOW $44,383
SAVE $14,012

THE BUICK HOLIDAY EVENT

GIVE A HAND FOR THE HOLIDAYS
$5 PROVIDES 15 MEALS
DONATE $5 OR 5 POUNDS THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER IN STORES OR ONLINE

MAKE THE CHOICE
SUBURBAN
Suburban Buick GMC
FERNDALE

THE GMC HOLIDAY EVENT

BUICK GMC

877-913-5086 • www.suburbanbuickgmc.com OPEN SATURDAY 10-5

*See dealer for details. All prices and payments are figured with a qualifying competitive make leased 1999 or newer in household and GM employees or family members. Payments calculated with $1,999 down 10,000 miles per year with approved credit thru Ally Bank S or A Tier credit. No security deposit required. Payments plus tax, plate & doc. fee, and first payment. Low APR in lieu of some rebates. +See dealer for details. Picture may not represent actual vehicle. Expires 12/27/12.

CATCH THE GRINCH—BEFORE HE'S GONE!

Dr. Seuss' How The GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS! THE MUSICAL

"AN EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE! 100 times better than any bedside story." —The New York Times

LIMITED HOLIDAY ENGAGEMENT!

Detroit Opera House • Now thru Dec. 30

Shows: Wed. & Thur. 1PM & 7:30PM; Fri. 7:30PM; Sat. 11AM, 2PM & 7:30PM; Sun. 2PM & 6PM
Tickets at Fisher Theatre & Detroit Opera House box offices, ticketmaster.com & 800-982-2787
Info: BroadwayInDetroit.com, 313-872-1000

BROADWAY IN DETROIT 2012-2013 SEASON sponsored by CHRYSLER

Knowledge = Power

Know Yourself - get tested

Free HIV testing in a compassionate and supportive setting
Treatment and services available across Detroit and Southeastern Michigan

Take Control. Take the Test. Call Now.

(800) 872-2437

DETROIT DHWP
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELLNESS PROMOTION

HIV/AIDS Programs
Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention, Treatment & Recovery (800) 467-2452
Herman Kiefer Health Complex
1151 Taylor, Detroit 48202

COVER STORY

5 Turmoil in Lansing

Photo: Bonnie Bucqueroux, Lansing Online News

BTL
Between The Lines
The Divas Issue
Barbra and Bette Chat!
Turmoil In Lansing
Anti-LGBT Laws Die But Legislators Pass Pro-Gun & Anti-Abortion Bills
WWW.PRIDESOURCE.COM
DEC 20, 2012 | VOL. 2051 | FREE

NEWS

6 After refusing to counsel gays, ousted student gets $75K settlement

7 Same-sex second-parent adoption ruling praised

9 KGLRC gala reflections

9 AIDS Walkers honored at Leon & Lulus

10 'Past time' to review HIV criminal laws, says former presidential commission member

11 Transgender college hoops player keeps head high

12 British government to legalize same-sex marriage

OPINION

8 Linden schools get an 'F' in anti-bullying

10 Parting Glances

12 Creep of the Week

LIFE

14 Bette Midler: The showgirl goes on

16 Barbra & Seth: What a 'Trip'!

23 'Jersey Boys' is a knockout

24 Happenings

25 Hear Me Out

REAR VIEW

26 Classifieds

27 Puzzle

29 Dating Diet

30 Cocktail Chatter

SCAN QR CODE

BTL is available online every week. Our website also updates and reports on stories daily.

Go to Pridesource.com or scan this QR code.

> *I remember I had a wonderful time. I remember I made a great mark. I remember that I had a lot of friends in the gay world.*
>
> – Bette Midler on performing at a NYC bathhouse, pg. 14

BTL ISSUE 20.51 • DEC. 20, 2012

Join The Conversation @ PrideSource.com

Happy Holidays From BTL

From everyone at Between The Lines: happy holidays! We look forward to bringing you new content, exciting entertainment and the latest in LGBT news in the upcoming new year!

"Between The Lines Newspaper"

Email your op-eds to editor@pridesource.com

Follow us @YourBTL

Sign up online to receive our E-Digest

ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

Download This Issue Today

Out of town? Forget to pick up a copy of BTL? Every issue of BTL is also available online in PDF format, viewable right within your browser!

YELLOW PAGES

LGBT Resources Galore

Check out the Pride Source Yellow Pages and find out which businesses in your neighborhood are LGBT-friendly. Car need a tune up? Lawn care troubles getting you down? Check the Pride Source Yellow Pages, find the business you need and support your community!

HEARD ON FACEBOOK

Join The Conversation

"Like" Between The Lines on Facebook and join over 4,000 fans in engaging conversations about LGBT politics, entertainment and more!

ENTER TO WIN

Disney's The Lion King

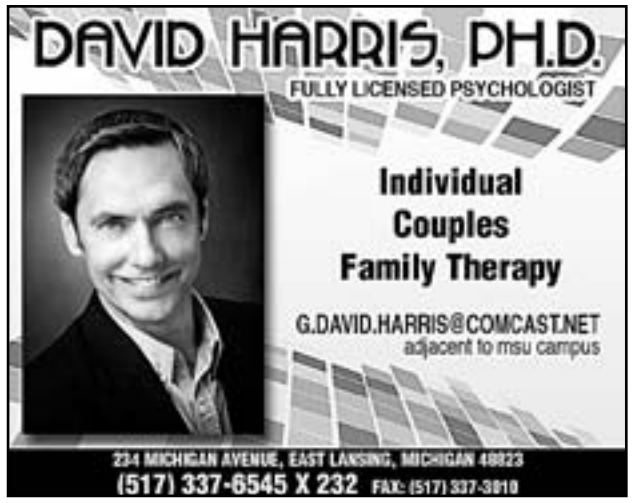
Experience the phenomenon of "The Lion King." Let your imagination run wild during this award-winning Broadway sensation. Win two tickets to the performance at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 13 at the Detroit Opera House. Pridesource.com/ticketcontest.html

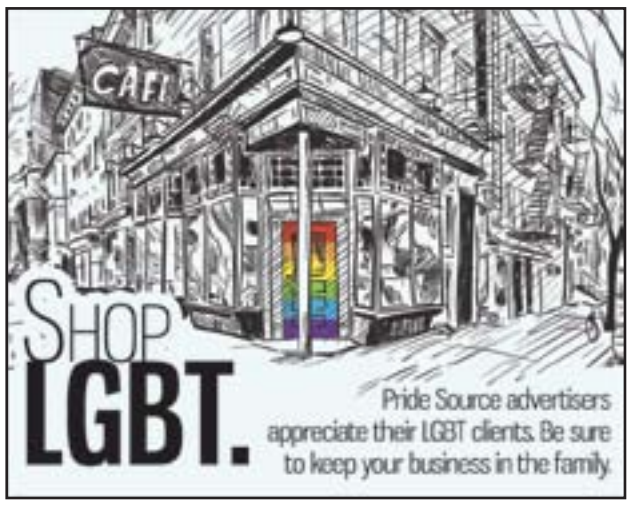
BTL
Lansing
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD • YOUR MARKET

Be included in our Lansing Cool Cities Pages

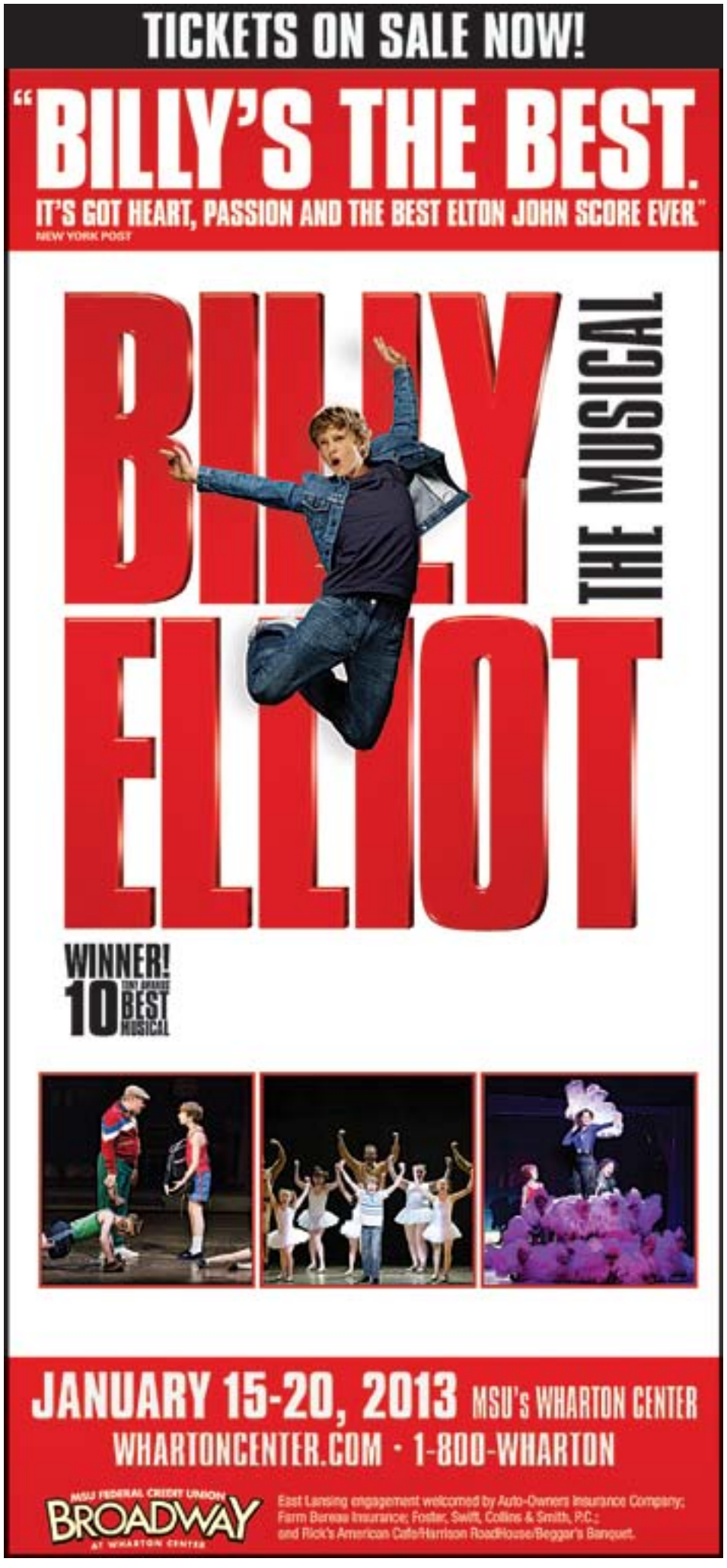
Call Ann today: 734-293-7200 x13

Shop Lansing! Go Spartans





SUBARU share the love EVENT
Objects in mirror are worth more than you know.
alzheimer's association
ASPCA
MAKE-A-WISH
Meals On Wheels
USO
With every new Subaru purchased or leased, we're donating $250 to your choice of five charities. Get a great deal. Support a great cause. Now through January 2.
SUBARU
Confidence in Motion
Williams Subaru
2845 East Saginaw St., Lansing, MI 48912
517-484-1341 www.williamssubaru.com
Subaru will donate $250 for every new Subaru vehicle sold or leased from November 21, 2012 through January 2, 2013 to one of the five participating charities designated by the purchaser, up to $5,000,000 total. Purchasers must make their charity designations by January 31, 2013. See Subaru.com/share for details. A minimum donation of $250,000 will be made to each participating charity. All donations made by Subaru of America, Inc. Subaru, Forester, Outback, Tribeca, Legacy, Impreza, WRX, STI and SUBARU BOXER are registered trademarks.


TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
"BILLY'S THE BEST.
IT'S GOT HEART, PASSION AND THE BEST ELTON JOHN SCORE EVER"
NEW YORK POST
BILLY ELLIOT
THE MUSICAL
WINNER!
10 TONY AWARDS
BEST MUSICAL
JANUARY 15-20, 2013 MSU's WHARTON CENTER
WHARTONCENTER.COM · 1-800-WHARTON
MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
BROADWAY AT WHARTON CENTER
East Lansing engagement welcomed by Auto-Owners Insurance Company; Farm Bureau Insurance; Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C.; and Rick's American Cafe/Harrison Roadhouse/Beggar's Banquet.

Turmoil In Lansing

Anti-LGBT Laws Die In Lame Duck Session, But Legislators Pass Bills For Pro-Gun, Restrictions on Abortion, Governor Signs Right To Work Law

BY JAN STEVENSON

LANSING - At 4:30 a.m. Dec. 14 it was official - the Michigan legislature did not hold final votes on House Bills 5763 and 5764, which would have allowed adoption agencies to discriminate based on a moral or religious conviction, or on Senate Bill 975, which would have allowed healthcare professionals to similarly discriminate.

The lame duck session ended in the wee hours of the morning after legislators voted on a flurry of other bills, but they did not vote on the three bills that activists said specifically targeted LGBT people and families, thereby killing the bills for now. The all-night session capped a frenetic lame duck session that saw Michigan become the 24th state to pass so-called right-to-work legislation, a devastating blow to the labor movement in our state that has the richest labor history in the nation.

Emily Dievendorf, policy director at Equality Michigan, was at the capitol until the final gavel came down Friday morning. She credited the thousands of people who called and emailed their legislators and the governor to protest passage of the moral objection bills.

"I was proud to be there for that moment and today we celebrate with our supporters - along with all LGBT families across Michigan and our friends within partner organizations from Unity Michigan, labor, education, and other human rights movements," Dievendorf said in a written statement. "However, our allies were not so fortunate in defeating attacks on their communities this session. We join them in planning how to correct those injustices and we will no doubt continue to need their help, and the support of all Equality Michigan members, to keep these extremists in check."

"I think it's a positive thing that these discriminatory and harmful bills never came up for a vote," said Jay Kaplan, LGBT Project staff attorney at the Michigan ACLU. "Clearly the language of these bills would have permitted health care providers, including hospitals to refuse to provide medical services to LGBT patients, regardless of the potential for serious medical harm."

Barbara Murray, executive director of AIDS Partnership Michigan and chair of the HIV/AIDS Alliance in Michigan, a lobbying organization for HIV/AIDS issues, put this latest legislative attempt into historical perspective. "HAAM has fought moral objection/conscientious objector bills in the Michigan legislature over the last 12 years. None of us forgets the early years of the AIDS epidemic when patient's food trays were left in hospital hallways because staff would not enter the hospital room. It is a poor measure of society and humanity to pick and choose to whom you will deliver care," said Murray.

Other bills that received final approval and that are now on Gov. Snyder's desk awaiting his signature will restrict abortion, reinstate the financial manager legislation struck down by voters in the November election and ease gun laws.

Pro-choice advocates reacted strongly to the legislation that would require women to purchase a special insurance rider on their health insurance to cover abortion services.

"The 'rape rider' - a law requiring women to buy an insurance rider for abortion care - is a ridiculous burden upon women who will have to anticipate when they will become pregnant through rape or incest, or when they will experience a tragic fetal anomaly," said Lori Lamerand, chair of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan. "It is imperative that Gov. Snyder veto the bills and send a clear message that it's time for the lawmakers to stop putting themselves between patients and their doctors."

When legislators convene for the new session in January both chambers will continue to have solid Republican majorities, however the GOP majority in the House will be reduced from the current 20 votes to 8 in the new session.

Kaplan was clear that the temporary reprieve on the moral objection bills does not mean the issue is dead, and that LGBT activists will again be called on to fight back on these and other right-wing sponsored bills. "This is not a time to congratulate ourselves and become complacent again," said Kaplan. "The sad fact is that these bills would probably have the votes to pass and the potential to become law. And Governor Snyder could sign such measures into law. We need to continue to be vigilant and we need to continue to speak out."

Here are descriptions of the bills that the governor has on his desk this week:

- A phased-out elimination of the personal property tax
- A massive 45-page anti-abortion bill, that includes licensing of abortion facilities and allows for limits on insurance coverage for abortion services .
- The final bills needed to create a Regional Transportation Authority for southeast Michigan.
- An authority intended to improve streetlights in the city of Detroit.
- Legislation to assist Mike Ilitch in his plans for a new arena and entertainment district in downtown Detroit.
- Bills that make it tougher to recall state lawmakers.
- A requirement – already vetoed once by Snyder – that voters declare in writing they are U.S. citizens.
- A replacement emergency manager law, less than two months after voters rejected the former law, Public Act 4 of 2011.
- Privatization of a prison in Baldwin.
- Easing restrictions on where guns can be carried, including at schools and churches.
- Changes to the state's medical marijuana laws.

BRIEFS

DEARBORN

UM-Dearborn To Host Queer-Identified Muslim Activist Speaker Faisal Alam, Jan. 24

University of Michigan-Dearborn will host a presentation by speaker, writer, organizer and activist Fail Alam.

Alam is a queer-identified Muslim activist of Pakistani descent. He began the first internet based email discussion group for LGBT Muslims at age 19 in Nov. 1997, which marked the first time that LGBT Muslims could discuss issues of common concern in a safe environment.

This listserv eventually led to the First International Retreat for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Muslims. Al-Fatiha - or "The Beginning" - was the theme of the retreat and eventually the name of the organization founded to support Muslims who were struggling to reconcile their faith and their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Alam's presentation "Hidden Voices: The Lives of LGBT Muslims" has been featured at over 100 universities and colleges. He has spoken and presented at numerous events across the country including LGBT interfaith services, inter-religious LGBT panel discussions, at synagogues, churches, PFLAG meetings and other community events.

Alam presents "Hidden Voices" at 6:30 p.m., Jan. 24 in Kochoff Hall B & C in the University Center of UM-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn. For more information on his presentation, visit www.hiddenvoices.info. For more information about this event, call 313-593-5390 or go to http://Sao.umd.umich.edu/faisalalam.

BENTON HARBOR

Berrien County Court Drops Criminal Charges Against Honking Protesters

In a victory for free speech, a Berrien County judge has ordered all criminal charges dropped against three individuals who were ticketed for violating a Benton Harbor noise ordinance when they tooted horns during a peaceful demonstration against Public Act 4, the emergency manager law.

On May 26 during the Senior PGA Golf Tournament in Benton Harbor, Chris Lamere, Sean Crawford and Robert Mabbitt participated in a public protest against Public Act 4, the appointment of a financial manager and the taking of public land from Klock Park for the development of the private golf course.

During the protest, Mabbitt and Crawford separately held up a sign with "P.A. 4" crossed out, similar to a no smoking sign. The sign also had a bicycle horn attached to it. After Mabbitt and Crawford tooted the horn on the sign, officers approached each of them and issued citations for violating the city's noise ordinance.

Lamere was issued a citation after tooting an airhorn during the protest. None of the protesters were issued warnings that tooting the horns would result in a citation. Lamere, Crawford and Mabbitt faced a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail had they been convicted.

"This is a wonderful victory for all people who treasure the guiding principles of the First Amendment. We are delighted that the judge agrees with us that tooting horns during a protest is a time honored tradition that must be protected. This case is further proof that the government should stay out of the speech regulation business. When the government passes overly broad laws, it risks, as in this case, silencing lawful speech. It's a shame that a cash-strapped city like Benton Harbor would waste limited resources prosecuting peaceful protesters and defending an unconstitutional noise ordinance," said Miriam Aukerman, ACLU of Michigan staff attorney.

In 2007, the ACLU of Michigan addressed a similar issue by challenging the City of Ferndale's practice of arresting peace protesters who encouraged passing motorists to honk in support and ticketing motorists who honked. A federal judge later agreed with the ACLU, ruling that honking is a form of constitutionally protected speech and a time honored tradition.

Extended briefs are available online at:

>> www.PrideSource.com

After Refusing to Counsel Gays, Ousted Student Gets $75,000 Settlement

BY CRYSTAL A. PROXMIRE

When graduate student Julea Ward was faced with the prospect of counseling a gay student as part of her training at Eastern Michigan University, she refused, claiming that providing counseling for a gay person violated her religious freedom.

The school kicked Ward out of the program. EMU follows the American Counseling Association's code of ethics. Under its nondiscrimination policy, the ACA rules that "Counselors do not condone or engage in discrimination based on age, culture, disability, ethnicity, race, religion, spirituality, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status/partnership, language preference, socioeconomic status or any basis prescribed by law." Because Ward refused to follow ACA standards, the school did not think she should be allowed to continue counseling.

The backlash from Ward's removal led a group of 34 conservative State House Republicans introduced a bill that would penalize colleges and universities if counseling students are required to provide services to all students. The bill would permit students to refuse to counsel a client if doing so conflicts with a student's religious belief or moral conviction. House Bill 5040 has passed the State House, yet remains in the Government Relations Committee.

Ward, represented by The Alliance Defense Fund filed, suit on April 2, 2009. The Alliance Defense Fund asked the court to order EMU to change its counseling curriculum to allow counseling students to refer clients elsewhere on issues related to same sex relationships, abortion and premarital sex.

Ward lost the first court case, but appealed. Last week EMU decided to settle the case rather than face years of expensive litigation. Ward obtained a $75,000 settlement and her expulsion is removed from her record as part of the legal settlement.

Walter Kraft, Vice President of Communications at EMU made it clear that by settling the school has no intention of changing it's policies. "The resolution of the lawsuit leaves the university's policies, programs and curricular requirements intact. The faculty retains its right to establish, in its learned judgment, the curriculum and program requirements for the counseling program at Eastern Michigan University," Kraft said.

> *"When a student voluntarily chooses to enter a non-religious affiliated public university counseling program, she is subject to those core curricular and academic standards and is not exempt to those standards. A particular religious belief does not afford a right to discriminate in non-religious activities."*
>
> - ACLU LGBT Rights Project Attorney Jay Kaplan

Julea Ward obtained a $75,000 settlement and her expulsion is removed from her record. Photo: Alliance Defense Fund.

"EMU has made the decision that it is in the best interest of its students and the taxpayers of the state of Michigan to resolve the litigation rather than continue to spend money on a costly trial. The matter has been resolved in the amount of $75,000. The University's insurance company, M.U.S.I.C. (Michigan Universities Self-Insurance Corporation), will pay the cost of the settlement."

Jay Kaplan, Staff Attorney for the ACLU LGBT Project agreed that the settlement does not enable counseling students to discriminate.

"The settlement between Eastern Michigan and Julea Ward was a private settlement and EMU apparently felt that it was in its best interests to reach this settlement. In no way does this settlement constitute an admission that EMU violated the religious rights of Ward. The same legal principle remains, public universities can have certain core curricular and academic standards, including a counseling program that requires that students should not discriminate in providing counseling services," Kaplan said. "When a student voluntarily chooses to enter a non-religious affiliated public university counseling program, she is subject to those core curricular and academic standards and is not exempt to those standards. A particular religious belief does not afford a right to discriminate in non-religious activities."

GLSEN, PFLAG, Affirmations and Ruth Ellis Center collectively wrote an amicus brief in support of EMU's decision to expel Ward, stating "understand the critical role of counselors in creating an environment where all young people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and express, feel safe and accepted at school and in the world. Those experiences have helped them to understand the harmful role that counselors who do not follow the ACA's ethical standards can play in undermining LGBTQ students' self-esteem, self-worth and overall mental health."

For additional background and information, including the July 2010 ruling by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan and the January 2012 ruling by the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, please visit http://www.emich.edu/aca_case/

Same-Sex Second-Parent Adoption Ruling Praised

BY BTL STAFF

LANSING – The Michigan Appeals Court ruled last week that family court judges have jurisdiction to grant second-parent adoptions to same-sex couples and that the birth mother cannot void an adoption just because she broke up with her former partner. The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan successfully represented the former partner.

"This is a tremendous victory for Michigan families," said Jay Kaplan, ACLU of Michigan LGBT Project staff attorney. "Every child deserves security and support and no child should be at risk of being ripped away from a loving parent because of a breakup."

Julianna Usitalo and Melissa Landon were in a long-term committed relationship when, in 2003, they decided to have a child together through artificial insemination and agreed that Landon would carry the child. In 2005, in order to give their child the stability of two legal parents, Landon first terminated her parental rights and then she and Usitalo jointly petitioned the family court to be legal parents. The family court granted the parties request, ruling that second-parent adoptions by same-sex couples are permitted under Michigan's adoption code.

In 2008, Usitalo and Landon separated, but entered into a custody and visitation agreement so both parents could continue to raise and share legal responsibility for the child. However, in 2010, Landon decided that she no longer wanted Usitalo in their daughter's life and asked a judge to void the second-parent adoption that she had previously asked the judge to grant, arguing that the judge never had the ability to grant the adoption in the first place.

In 2011, a Shiawassee County judge rejected Landon's argument and this week a three-judge appeals court panel unanimously affirmed the trial court's decision.

According to the decision, "…We conclude that defendant may not collaterally attack the validity of the 2005 adoption because there was no defect in the court's subject-matter jurisdiction. Thus, because the validity of the adoption may not now be questioned, we reject defendant's claim that plaintiff lacked standing to seek custody and parenting time of the minor child, and affirm the trial court's custody and parenting time order."

In a concurring opinion, Judge Douglas Shapiro further pointed out that if the court were to void the joint adoption as Landon asked, the child might be left without any legal parent because Landon had terminated her own rights before asking for the joint adoption: "Were we to void the 2003 joint adoption, it is quite possible that this nine-year-old child would be without a legal parent. Defendant's willingness to risk this result is quite troubling, as is her unabashed repudiation of the jurisdiction that she herself invoked seven years ago."

> *"Were we to void the 2003 joint adoption, it is quite possible that this nine-year-old child would be without a legal parent. Defendant's willingness to risk this result is quite troubling, as is her unabashed repudiation of the jurisdiction that she herself invoked seven years ago."*
>
> - Judge Douglas Shapiro

In 2009, the ACLU of Michigan, along with Lambda Legal, successfully litigated a similar case before the Michigan Appeals Court in which the court concluded that Michigan family courts cannot refuse to hear child custody cases simply because they involve children whose parents are gay or lesbian.

In addition to Kaplan, Usitalo is represented Cooperating Attorney Sarah Zearfoss, who argued the case, and ACLU of Michigan Legal Director Michael J. Steinberg. You can read more online at www.aclumich.org

PartridgeCreek
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Rhonda L. Kobold, D.O.
Beth K. Mutch, FNP
Robert A. Valice, M.D.
Teressa C. Kuz, WHNP
www.partridgecreekobgyn.com
15959 Hall Road, Suite 301 • Macomb Twp. • 48044
586.247.8609
Comprehensive Women's Health Services • 3D & 4D Ultrasound Imaging
On Staff at William Beaumont-Troy

NO ROOM IN THE INN?
WE HAVE LOTS OF ROOM
Lots of room for Jesus. In every heart. In every nook and cranny of our building. Jesus is here. Lots of room for you, too. In the same hearts. In the same building. This is Everybody's Church. And there's no better time to experience it than at our Christmas Eve services. We have a 2pm Rejoicing Spirits service. It's a no-shush service for people of all ages and abilities. Our 5pm service is for families. Wonderful worship for children. Our 8pm service is traditional and includes communion. Our 11pm service focuses on lessons and carols. Music. Music. Music. Pick the right service for you. Jesus will be there. And we'll love having you with us.
First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham
Everybody's Church
1669 W. Maple Road 248.644.2040 www.everybodyschurch.org

pride source media group

Vol. 2051 · Issue 795

December 20, 2012

PUBLISHERS

Susan Horowitz & Jan Stevenson

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief
Susan Horowitz
susanhorowitz@pridesource.com

Entertainment Editor
Chris Azzopardi
chrisazzopardi@pridesource.com

Associate Editor
Benjamin Jenkins
bj@pridesource.com

News Staff Writer
Crystal Proxmire

Arts & Theater Editor
Donald V. Calamia,
curtaincalls@pridesource.com

CREATIVE

Art Director
David Ano, davidano@pridesource.com

Webmaster & MIS Director
Kevin Bryant, kevinbryant@pridesource.com

Production Assistant
Benjamin Jenkins, bj@pridesource.com

Contributing Writers
Charles Alexander, Michelle E. Brown, Abby Dees, Jack Fertig, Todd Heywood, Martin Kohn, Richard Labonte, Michael H. Margolin, Jenn McKee, Jason Michael, Kate Opalewski, Anthony Paull, Andrea Poteet, Eric W. Rader, Bridgette M. Redman, Romeo San Vincente, Gwendolyn Ann Smith, D'Anne Witkowski, Dan Woog

Cartoonists
Paul Berg, Dave Brousseau, Joan Hilty

Contributing Photographers
Andrew Potter

ADVERTISING & SALES

Director of Sales
Jan Stevenson, jan@pridesource.com

Sales Representatives
Ed Bohach, ed@pridesource.com
Ann Cox, anncox@pridesource.com

National Advertising Representative
Rivendell Media, 212.242.6863

Business Office
Diane Smith, dianesmith@pridesource.com
Nancy Blankenship

Circulation & Distribution
Diane Smith

Pride Source Media Group
11920 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48150
Phone 734.293.7200 · Fax 734.293.7201
www.pridesource.com
Our rate cards are available online

All material appearing in Between The Lines is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced in whole or part without the permission of the publishers. Between The Lines is supported by many fine advertisers, but we cannot accept responsibility for claims made by our advertisers, nor can we accept responsibility for materials provided by advertisers or their agents.
Copyright 2012 Pride Source Media Group, LLC

NATIONAL GAY NEWSPAPER GUILD
Nothing average about it

Linden Schools Get An 'F' In Anti-Bullying

Viewpoint

OPINION BY JIM LARKIN

"So you can understand how deeply my daughter took the news of a Linden student who was bullied and had committed suicide. She questions whether things would have been different if she would have filed a formal complaint with the Office of Civil Rights and demanded Linden get its act together. She wonders what might have happened to her own daughter if she had left her in Linden Schools."

I find it interesting that Linden Superintendent Ed Koledo said Linden schools are "working hard to address bullying" ["Fenton Gay Teen Takes Own Life," Between The Lines, Dec. 13, 2012] when in fact it has known for quite some time that it has a serious problem with bullying gay and lesbian students and has done little to address the problem. I should know. My granddaughter came out as a lesbian at Linden schools about one year before Linden junior Josh Pacheco committed suicide. She, too, was bullied and school officials did very little to protect her or even address that pervasive atmosphere of bullying in Linden schools. I have even heard students joke about how little they do.

If Linden officials had taken the situation seriously then and taken a clear stance that bullying of all kinds is not tolerated perhaps Josh Pacheco wouldn't have had to go through the grief he did. Perhaps he would be alive.

To understand how deep the problem goes in Linden, please listen to my granddaughter's story:

My granddaughter was bullied by a group of three girls who targeted her for being gay, taunting her with derogatory terms on her way to lunch and cornering her in the hallway and yelling mean things at her. When the trio would not let it go, my granddaughter's friend went to the office and told on the girls and the vice principal's "investigation" resulted in the trio saying it was a misunderstanding.

But the taunting continued and my granddaughter became more and more depressed and planned her own suicide. At the advice of her therapist, she was admitted to a hospital.

After she returned to school, her mother emailed the names of the three girls to the guidance counselor, principal and vice principal at Linden Middle School. After a week of hearing nothing from them, her mother emailed them again and left a voicemail with the superintendent. After 10 days of waiting for a response, and hearing nothing, my daughter became convinced no one was advocating for my granddaughter so she personally went to the school and took my granddaughter out of Linden Schools.

The principal was standing right there and did nothing as she checked her out. No questions. No words. My granddaughter was placed in another school district that took bullying and the protection of all students more seriously.

Superintendent Koledo finally did call my daughter. He listened, and his last words were that he would speak to his administrators and, "good luck." Not one word of, "I'm sorry you had that experience," or "this is how we handle these things" or anything. Simply, "good luck." It was as if he was saying, we didn't want your kid anyway.

To be fair, the principals did apologize later and were remorseful. My daughter let the principal know that there was another girl who was bullied by this same girl and that girl also left their district. My daughter wanted Linden officials to know there were other kids that were gay and needed a safe place to learn.

When my granddaughter was experiencing her problems, a group of Linden parents contacted my granddaughter's best friend's mom, telling her she should be careful about letting her daughter hang around my granddaughter because she was a lesbian. So, Linden Schools not only have a school culture of hatred for gays and lesbians, not surprisingly, they have a community that adds to it.

My daughter's family moved out of Linden. The difference between Linden and her new school district is startling. She has an understanding counselor who seems to truly get her and helps her, and two administrators who look in on her, advocate for her, and make sure she has a safe place to learn. She has found a place where she can be herself, be accepted, and learn.

So you can understand how deeply my daughter took the news of a Linden student who was bullied and had committed suicide. She questions whether things would have been different if she would have filed a formal complaint with the Office of Civil Rights and demanded Linden get its act together. She wonders what might have happened to her own daughter if she had left her in Linden Schools.

But most of all, she wants the greater Linden community to learn from this tragedy. It will take not only teachers, but a supportive administration, AND community working together to make much needed changes in Linden. Schools can't do it alone, but hopefully they are at least willing to try in the face of their recent suicide.

Jim Larkin is a freelance writer based in Michigan and has reported for BTL.

GREAT ARTICLE, SMITTY, BUT HERE AT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, WE NO LONGER USE THE WORD "HOMOPHOBIA."
NO PROBLEM—WHAT WORD ARE WE USING INSTEAD? "GAYTRED"? "LESBIANIMUS"?
NO, NO, NO, NO. THE IDEA IS TO EXPRESS THE SAME CONCEPT IN A MORE POSITIVE WAY.
HOW ABOUT "STRAIGHT ACTIVISM"?
AS LONG AS YOU'RE NOT SUGGESTING THE "STRAIGHT" PART IS JUST AN ACT.
©2012

KGLRC Gala Reflections

BTL Publishers Honored With Humanitarian of The Year Award

BY JAN STEVENSON

KALAMAZOO - Almost 400 people gathered at the Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts Dec. 15 to celebrate and support the Kalamazoo Gay & Lesbian Resource Center. Aside from the sheer size of the crowd and amount of money raised, what was notable was how many allies were there, easily mingling with the LGBT youth, volunteers and board members.

Incoming board chair Carol Anderson welcomed the standing room only crowd and emceed the awards ceremony. Six awards were given out; Tammy Collins received the Retail Award for her donations of graphics work, Jen Hsu received the Terry Kuseke Education Award for her work at the Western Michigan University Office of LGBT Student Services, Nicole Ogrin from PNC Bank received the Ally Award, the entire group of 20 Triangle Mentors got the Community Award, and Joe and Nancy Calme received the Faith Award for their work within the Unitarian Universalist Church of Portage.

Susan Horowitz and I received the Jim Knox Humanitarian Award for our activist work and as the co-publishers of Pride Source Media Group. For me, it was especially meaningful because I relate so much to James Knox story. He was inspired to help found KGLRC by the stories

KGLRC board members Lori Santiago, left, and Teresa Stankewicz presented BTL publishers Jan Stevenson and Susan Horowitz with the Jim Knox Humanitarian of the Year Award. Photo: Terry Johnston Photography

and needs he saw before him. I, like him, am an accidental activist. In the 1980s my career in corporate banking was rocketing up. Then I met and joined a small group of volunteers who wanted to start a gay and lesbian helpline in Detroit. The voices on the other end of that phone line tore my heart out, and compelled me and the others to change the course of our lives. That core group became the nucleus of Affirmations Community Center in Ferndale, and I its first executive director.

Later I used my financial chops to help start the HOPE Fund at the Community Foundation For Southeast Michigan. And then when Susan and I had the chance to become BTL's publishers we jumped at it – because we know that the power of this movement for equal rights lies in the telling of these extraordinary stories of everyday people.

We've learned that writing about activism is easier than doing it. We've learned that as an activist newspaper we have an obligation to be part of the movement, not simply a disinterested critic. We are intrinsically aware that we are all in this thing together.

We've learned over the past 20 years of publishing Between The Lines that the gay rights movement does not exist in a vacuum. It is part of a much larger American movement to create a more perfect union.

And we've learned over the past 20 years of publishing Between The Lines that the gay rights movement does not exist in a vacuum. It is part of a much larger American movement to create a more perfect union. We've learned that the American Dream is not about a few people getting rich while the rest live in poverty. It's not about telling women they are not capable of making decisions about their own bodies. It's not about some people being allowed to marry and others can't. We certainly know that the right to bear arms does not include the right to mow down school children with automatic weapons.

And perhaps the most important thing we have learned is that there is a radical un-American movement in this country that sees all these issues interconnected, and last week in the Michigan legislature we saw it played out in full form in the final week of the lame duck session.

Although we in the gay rights movement can herald something of a victory because the conscience objection bills died before coming to a final vote, bills did pass that attacked Michigan's labor movement with passage of so-called right to work legislation, abortion rights were curtailed, and a bill passed that eases gun laws in Michigan. These are our issues too, and at Between The Lines we pledge to continue to connect the dots, to make it clear that we are not alone in the movement toward justice and equality.

Thanks to KGLRC and its director Zach Bauer for this award.

Additional photos available on KGLRC's Facebook page.

AIDS Walkers Honored At Leon & Lulus

CLAWSON – It was all smiles and hugs at the Thank You event for AIDS Walk Detroit Dec. 12 at the fabulous and eclectic Leon & Lulu store in Clawson. Owner Mary Liz Curtin welcomed guests and honorees, and encouraged the crowd of about 150 people to continue their support in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Curtin said she would donate 10 percent of all sales that evening to AIDS Walk Detroit.

The five individuals and teams that raised the most money at AIDS Walk Detroit in September were honored with awards. The top five individuals were David Agius at $18,020, Frank D'Amore at $7,725, Ron Northrup at $7,586, Jenna Collins at $4,323 and Daniel Gwinn at $3,100. The five teams were from Health Emergency Lifeline Programs, Affirmations, Dignity Detroit, MAC Cosmetics and Beaumont Hospitals.

Above: Mary Liz Curtin hosted the thank you event at her eclectic store, Leon & Lulu in Berkley. About 150 people browsed, noshed and honored the walkers who raised the most for AIDS Walk Detroit. Right: Frank D'Amore, left, and his partner Rick Gillon were part of the Dignity Detroit team that raised $12,292, and D'Amore raised over $7,700 individually. Below: David Agius, left, raised over $18,000 for AIDS Walk Detroit, which was the most raised by any one individual. Celebrating with Terry Ryan, executive director of Michigan AIDS Coalition.

OZ Goes Noel!

Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

If stars are auspicious – and on this glorious, Night of Nights one star shown brightest of all – there are paths that magically switch in time, space, and crazy activation.

And so it happened once upon a whimsical time when five companions on one path, three on another, switched positions, directions, and final destinations.

The first group – names familiar to young and old alike – Dorothy, Toto, Tinman, Scarecrow, Cowardly Lion – were larking on the Yellow Brick Road to Oz, when the unexpected crisscrossing occurred.

Quite suddenly they were overwhelmed by a brilliant light that gently nudged them far beyond their travels. Giddy – very, very young – exuberantly naive at heart – they forgot all about Oz, which is not an easy thing to do. (Ask any adult.)

(The second regal sojourners – Gaspar. Balthasar. Melchoir – bearing Magi gifts for someone of noble birth – were baffled to find themselves getting heady in a poppy-infested countryside. A curious sign pointed them to MGM – Many Golden Memories!)

"I hear music. Could it be choirs singing?" asked Tinman, eager to follow wherever the sounds led. "How marvelously wonderful," laughed Dorothy, knowing full well that tin men have tin ears; that perhaps this was an auspicious sign.

Along the way Dorothy and her rerouted friends found themselves waved to by shepherds keeping their flocks by night. "It seems we're celebrities," giggled Scarecrow, as Toto and Cowardly Lion busied themselves – bravely to be sure – chasing off wolves howling too close for comfort. As the overhead klieg light in the sky got brighter. Scarecrow, with newfound mental acumen, ventured pompously, "This star is of 31.50 magnitude. A biggie."

On cue, Dorothy, who possessed palatial talents (hoping someday to perform in movies) began singing. Out of the blue she sang words she had never heard before, but somehow knew by heart, with Tinman, Cowardly Lion, Scarecrow crooning in.

The desolate miles quickly reeled by, and before they could finish the last chorus of "Meet Me in St. Louis, Louis" they found themselves among a small crowd gathered in front of a tiny, makeshift manger.

There were shepherds, seven dwarfs, a newly awakened Sleeping Beauty with her braveheart prince, and, in the center of it all, a mom, a carpenter dad, a small baby wrapped in hand-me-down clothes.

And because there was an awe-inspired, opening-night crowd applauding, the little guy began to cry. Not too loudly, but authoritatively audible to be sure. Then, lo and behold, – in a moment of exquisite improv – Scarecrow pulled straw from his thump-thump-thumping heart and gently gave it to cradle the baby's head.

Dorothy, with perfect on-stage presence, sang an angelic lullaby just newly inspired: "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." The crying baby hushed, and gave the tinniest of Technicolor smiles. (His own over-the-rainbow-time would come another day.)

Strike set! In the 1939 twinkling of an eye, Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow, Cowardly Lion, Toto, were whisked to their own make believe reality. "Well, whatever would Auntie Em say?" sputtered Dorothy.

"And why in heaven's name would a shepherd be wearing Ruby Red slippers and clicking his heels? Is he 'funny' that way?" camped Cowardly Lion, with a wink and a swish and a swagger of his sequined tail.

Charles@pridesource.com

'Past Time' To Review HIV Criminal Laws, Says Former Presidential Commissioner

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Originally published on American Independent website

A member of the first federal commission to look at the HIV epidemic says it is "probably past time" for states to revisit their HIV-specific criminal laws.

"I think it would be time to go back," said Dr. Colleen Conway-Welch, a member of the commission created by President Reagan to investigate the disease. "In fact, it's probably past time to go back and subject those laws to scientific scrutiny."

In its 1988 report, the Presidential Commission on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus Epidemic made five recommendations related to "criminalization of HIV transmission." The first recommendation was that states should adopt criminal laws creating "affirmative duties" for those who know they are infected with HIV to disclose that status to sexual partners, to obtain the "knowing consent" of their sexual partners, and to use "precautions" to prevent transmission.

The second recommendation said that such laws should include strong confidentiality provisions. The third recommendation was that prosecutors should consult with public health officials in order to decide whether criminal charges or a public health intervention would be more appropriate for a given case, and that such public health activity be included in any prosecution presentation. The fourth urged states to make sure that those prosecuted under HIV laws are interviewed by public health authorities before they are released from prison to determine whether further action by public health officials is necessary to prevent the person from posing a threat.

The final recommendation said that states should not prosecute people living with HIV for conduct that "did not involve a scientifically established mode of transmission."

In 1990, Congress mandated that states certify to the Department of Health and Human Services that they had ways to prosecute persons for "intentional" exposure to HIV. That mandate was part of the landmark Ryan White CARE Act, which provided the first comprehensive funding mechanism related to HIV and its care in the United States.

By 2000, all 50 states had certified that they could prosecute a person for intentional transmission of HIV. Some states chose to adopt specific HIV-related laws, while others relied on the traditional criminal laws, such as felonious assault or attempted murder.

According to Lambda Legal, "Thirty-nine states have HIV-specific criminal statutes or have brought HIV-related criminal charges resulting in more than 80 prosecutions in the United States" since 2010.

In the U.S., HIV criminalization has resulted in unacceptable human rights violations, including harsh sentencing for behaviors that pose little to no risk of HIV transmission. Thirty-two states and two U.S. territories have HIV-specific criminal statutes. Thirty-two states have arrested or prosecuted individuals with HIV infection for consensual sex, biting and spitting.

The laws are controversial. There is little evidence that they deter behavior that is likely to spread HIV, and at least one study has found evidence that HIV prosecutions in Canada may discourage people from being tested for the disease. Many of the U.S. laws do not require proof of actual transmission. In fact, some laws specifically state that the use of a condom is not a defense against prosecution. And some of the laws criminalize behavior that poses a negligible risk of HIV transmission, such as spitting or biting.

Conway-Welch, who currently serves as dean of the School of Nursing at Vanderbilt University in Tennessee, adds her name to a growing list of organizations and individuals calling for officials to revisit HIV-specific criminal laws in the United States.

In October, the HIV Medicine Association released a statement, reading in part:

"Policies and laws that create HIV-specific crimes or that impose penalties for persons who are HIV-infected are unjust and harmful to public health around the world. In the U.S., HIV criminalization has resulted in unacceptable human rights violations, including harsh sentencing for behaviors that pose little to no risk of HIV transmission. Thirty-two states and two U.S. territories have HIV-specific criminal statutes. Thirty-two states have arrested or prosecuted individuals with HIV infection for consensual sex, biting and spitting. These laws and prosecutions unfairly target individuals with HIV infection and are not based on the latest scientific knowledge regarding HIV transmission, including the finding that transmission risk from biting or spitting is negligible."

The statement goes on to call for an end to HIV-specific criminal laws, requirements that all policies and laws related to HIV be "based on scientifically accurate information regarding HIV transmission routes and risk," a federal review to "identify harmful policies," and public education on the impact of stigma and criminalization.

Conway-Welch agrees that focusing on the science is key to addressing the issue.

"Most of the criminal laws were put into place in the early 90s because people were scared, and it would make sense to recommend that they go back," she said in a phone interview with The American Independent. "In medicine now, there is a real push for evidence-based interventions, and I think that for those laws that were not evidence-based, I think it would be time to go back."

Some of the laws, such as Missouri's,

See HIV Criminalization, page 12

Transgender College Hoops Player Keeps Head Up High

BY LISA LEFF

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) – The women's basketball team at Mission College expected the bleachers to be full and the hecklers ready when its newest player made her home court debut.

In the days leading up to the game, people had plenty to say about 6-foot-6-inch, 220-pound Gabrielle Ludwig, who joined the Lady Saints as a mid-season walk-on and became, according to advocates, the first transsexual to play college hoops as both a man and a woman.

Coach Corey Cafferata worried the outside noise was getting to his players, particularly the 50-year-old Ludwig.

A pair of ESPN radio hosts had laughed at her looks, referring to her as "it." And online threats and anonymous calls prompted the two-year college to assign the Navy veteran of Operation Desert Storm a safer parking space next to the gym and two police guards.

Last week, Ludwig gathered her 10 teammates at practice and offered to quit. This was their time to shine, she told the group of 18-, 19- and 20-year-olds. She didn't want to be a distraction for the team. The other women said if Ludwig, whom they nicknamed "Big Sexy" and "Princess," didn't play, they wouldn't either.

Didn't she know she was the glue holding the team together?

"Then let's just play basketball," she replied solemnly, looking each teammate in the eye.

A lifelong basketball lover, Ludwig has been helping coach and working out with the Saints since the beginning of the school year, but she only received conference clearance to compete on the last day of November. She took the court as No. 42 the next day, scoring three points on four free throws in about seven minutes of play. Last weekend, during her first home game, she scored eight points in 11 minutes, Facebook friend requests from the opposing team – and not a single heckle.

"I got exactly what I always wanted, just to fit in and be normal like everyone else," Ludwig said.

The story of how she ended up in a basketball uniform again would inspire comparisons to "The Natural" or other tales of middle-aged redemption were it not for gender. Introduced to the sport as an impressively tall 7th grade boy, she played on her high school team as Robert John Ludwig, then one season at a community college on Long Island in New York. After she dropped out, her court appearances were limited to pickup games.

The basketball bug returned 12 years ago, when her daughter from her second marriage, then 7, started playing youth basketball and Ludwig signed on as her coach. Ludwig kept coaching other people's children when her daughter moved on to high school and still works with hundreds of middle school girls every year.

Her transition from a male coach to a female coach five years ago raised questions, but parents generally accepted her decision warmly, she said. So did the women she played with in a couple of intramural leagues.

As someone living as a woman and taking female hormones since 2007, Ludwig was eligible to play in the NCAA. Transgender student athletes who have taken medication to suppress testosterone for a year may compete on women's teams under a policy adopted last year.

What the naysayers do not know, she said, is that Ludwig is not the same player she was as a 24-year-old male. She has less muscle and height, because of female hormones she takes. And at her age, she has to work to keep up.

"Yeah, I hit with a little more punch down low, but that's because I weigh 220 pounds, but I am not the only 220 woman out there," she said. "It's different now. My body has changed, my strength has changed, my attitude has changed."

While coaching a youth game on the Mission court last year she met Cafferata. They kept in touch, and when Ludwig half-jokingly asked if he had a spot for her, he said he might.

"The only thing I had to do is talk to my potential teammates and say, 'Hey, do you have room for me? This is where I am, this is where I've been, and I really love this game. Can I play with y'all?' And it was a resounding, 'Hell yeah!'"

Cafferata is tactful when asked whether Ludwig's size and former gender give the Saints an unfair advantage. A self-described champion of underdogs – his roster includes a player who is deaf and others with learning disabilities – the coach is rooting for Ludwig all the way. But to become a starter, she will need to work on endurance and speed.

"Gabrielle has earned a spot on this team," he said. "She practices hard. She runs hard. She is no different from anyone on the team – she is a great, coachable player."

As someone living as a woman and taking female hormones since 2007, Ludwig was eligible to play in the NCAA. Transgender student athletes who have taken medication to suppress testosterone for a year may compete on women's teams under a policy adopted last year.

The California Community College Athletic Association had another hoop for Ludwig. Because its rules base gender on a student's birth certificate, she would need a new one. Ludwig, who had sex reassignment surgery over the summer, petitioned a judge and obtained her papers on Nov. 30.

Ludwig, who turns 51 this month, acknowledged that part of her motivation for playing women's basketball was to be a role-model for transgender youth. She finds hope, if not gratification in the temporary suspensions ESPN radio hosts Steve Czaban and Andy Pollin received this week because of the remarks they made about her. But she wants her court accomplishments – not her gender change – to draw comments.

"If men think that women's basketball is easy, let them spend a day out here and get their butt kicked," she said.

Mission College Athletic Director Mike Perez was all for Ludwig playing. He admires her for working a fulltime professional job – as a systems engineer for a pharmaceutical company – while carrying a full course load in computer administration. He also has seen the way her young teammates look up to Ludwig "and not just because she's tall."

"I could tell that one, she was a person of substance and two, somebody who was really sincere about what they were trying to do," Perez said. "Many people have different views, but the most important view is she ... has a right to be on this basketball team."

Teammate Amy Woo, 19, said Ludwig has brought a maternal influence, helping the team keep problems in perspective.

"We all love her," Woo said. "If someone is going to talk against her, they are talking against all of us because it's like she is part of a family."

Tail Wagger's
"Helping People Help Animals"
Mission Statement
Tail Wagger's 1990 is committed to helping people help animals. It is our ultimate goal to be able to support dedicated pet owners who are in need of assistance along with providing necessary funding for those animals in emergency situations.
Developed over 22 years ago, Tail Wagger's 1990 is a unique animal welfare organization focusing on the needs of animals in the community. Tail Wagger's provides low-cost services to animals and their owners to help them stay together!
Because we understand that, at times, families face challenges that make owning a pet a financial burden, we have created programs based on what we have learned are the core reasons pet owners surrender their animals to over-crowded shelters.
Tail Wagger's 1990 provides the following services to animals / families in need:
Pantry 4 Paws Pet Food Assistance
Low-Cost Vaccinations
Low-Cost Spay/Neuter Program
Wellness Services
28402 Five Mile Rd. • Livonia, MI 48154
734-855-4877 • www.tailwaggers1990.org
501 (c) (3) Organization

DEB'S DINER
Open Every Day 7am to 3pm
Specializing in All Day Breakfast
WHEN YOU'RE HERE YOU'RE HOME!
1430 Ottawa St., Windsor, Ontario
519-252-DEBS(3327)

Creep of the Week

OPINION BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Antonin Scalia

A famous Italian Catholic has had a big change of heart regarding marriage equality after publicly saying some pretty nasty things about gays.

"I'm upset about the way I was portrayed," this public figure said. "What you see in the media is not the real me. Gay people should be married. I should be allowed to change my mind on this."

I couldn't agree more. People should be allowed to change their minds, especially when they move from an uninformed to an informed opinion.

And with the announcement that the United States Supreme Court will hear cases regarding the Defense of Marriage Act and California's anti-gay Proposition 8, I have to say I almost wish that Angelina Pivarnick of Jersey Shore, who made the above comments, was an Associate Justice.

Granted, part of the reasoning that Pivarnick gave for her (allegedly changed) belief that gays shouldn't get married was "I don't want a girl's mouth on my pussy, sorry," but I would certainly choose her over Antonin Scalia, an actual Associate Justice who has a long history of animus towards gay people and whose arguments make about as much sense as Pivarnick's.

Take what Scalia said on Dec. 10 during a talk given to students at Princeton, for example: "If we cannot have moral feelings against homosexuality, can we have it against murder?"

Ah, yes. The old "homosexuality to murder" comparison. Actually, comparing homosexuality to things that are truly terrible is one of Scalia's specialties. And a gay freshman at Princeton called him out on it.

Duncan Hosie asked about Scalia's dissents in gay rights cases, specifically "his mentions of murder, polygamy, cruelty to animals and bestiality" according to a story on Princeton's website. Hosie, not surprisingly, "found the comparisons offensive."

"Do you think it's necessary to draw these comparisons, to use this specific language, to make the point that the Constitution doesn't protect gay rights?" Hosie asked Scalia during a Q&A following the talk.

"I don't think it's necessary, but I think it's effective," Scalia said. "It's a type of argument that I thought you would have known, which is called a reduction to the absurd. And to say that if we cannot have moral feelings against homosexuality, can we have it against murder, can we have it against these other things? Of course we can. I don't apologize for the things I raised. I'm not comparing homosexuality to murder. I'm comparing the principle that a society may not adopt moral sanctions, moral views, against certain conduct. I'm comparing that with respect to murder and that with respect to homosexuality."

> I love how Scalia claims he's not comparing homosexuality to murder, he's just comparing feelings about homosexuality to feelings about murder.

First of all, gotta love how Scalia talks down to this kid: "It's a type of argument that I thought you would have known." This is especially dickish because Hosie didn't ask what category of argument Scalia was working in, he asked why Scalia unleashes such invective when talking about gay people.

Second of all, I love how Scalia claims he's not comparing homosexuality to murder, he's just comparing feelings about homosexuality to feelings about murder. And he thinks both things are horrible, thank you very much.

Scalia's prejudice against gay/lesbian rights issues and gay and lesbian people is well documented and long. In fact, some folks are even calling for Scalia to recuse himself from the DOMA and Prop. 8 cases. I'm not going to hold my breath. Scalia doesn't see gays and lesbians as human beings, he sees them as people who do sex stuff he thinks is gross. Recusing himself would be the right thing to do, and I doubt Scalia is all of a sudden going to do what is right when it comes to gays.

British Government To Legalize Same-Sex Marriage

BY JILL LAWLESS

LONDON (AP) – The British government announced Tuesday that it will introduce a bill next year legalizing gay marriage – but banning the Church of England from conducting same-sex ceremonies.

Equalities minister Maria Miller said the legislation would authorize same-sex civil marriages, as well as religious ceremonies if religions decide to "opt in."

"I feel strongly that, if a couple wish to show their love and commitment to each other, the state should not stand in their way," Miller said.

"For me, extending marriage to same-sex couples will strengthen, not weaken, this vital institution."

Some religious groups, such as Quakers and liberal Jews, say they want to conduct same-sex ceremonies. But others, including the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches, oppose gay marriage.

Miller said the legislation would make it unlawful for the Church of England – the country's official church, symbolically headed by Queen Elizabeth II – and the Anglican Church in Wales to conduct gay weddings. The government does not have the same legal authority over other churches, but hopes that the ban for the Church of England will reassure religious opponents of same-sex marriage that they will not be forced to take part.

It also will ensure that religious organizations or ministers who refuse to marry a same-sex couple can't be sued for discrimination.

"No religious organization will ever be forced to conduct marriages for same-sex couples," Miller told lawmakers.

> *"I feel strongly that, if a couple wish to show their love and commitment to each other, the state should not stand in their way. For me, extending marriage to same-sex couples will strengthen, not weaken, this vital institution."*
>
> – Maria Miller, Equalities Minister

Since 2005, gay couples in Britain have been able to form civil partnerships, which gives them the same legal protection, adoption and inheritance rights as heterosexual married partners – but not the label of marriage.

The government's announcement was welcomed by gay rights campaigners, but condemned by some religious leaders, including some of those within the Church of England.

Bishop of Leicester Timothy Stevens underscored the church's official view that "marriage is a union between one man and one woman – a social institution that predates both church and state and has been the glue that has bound countless successive societies together."

Anglicans are divided on the issue, however. Richard Harries, a former bishop of Oxford, told the House of Lords that "a good number of members of the Church of England warmly welcome the government's position."

"Privately a fair number of individual bishops in the Church of England also support it but are not able to say so publicly at the moment," he said.

The bill is likely to have enough support in Parliament to become law. Gay marriage is backed by Britain's Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron and many of his Cabinet, as well as by most lawmakers from the Liberal Democrat and Labour parties.

But some traditionalist members of Cameron's Conservative Party remain strongly opposed.

"I would like to ask the Secretary of State and the government what right have they got, other than arrogance and intolerance, to stamp their legislative boot on religious faith?" said lawmaker Richard Drax.

► HIV Criminalization

Continued from p. 10

specifically make it a crime to bite another person while HIV-positive, even though the chances of transmitting the virus this way are negligible, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Nebraska passed a law last year that makes it a felony for an HIV-positive individual to assault a law enforcement agent with body fluids -- including fluids that do not transmit HIV, like saliva and urine.

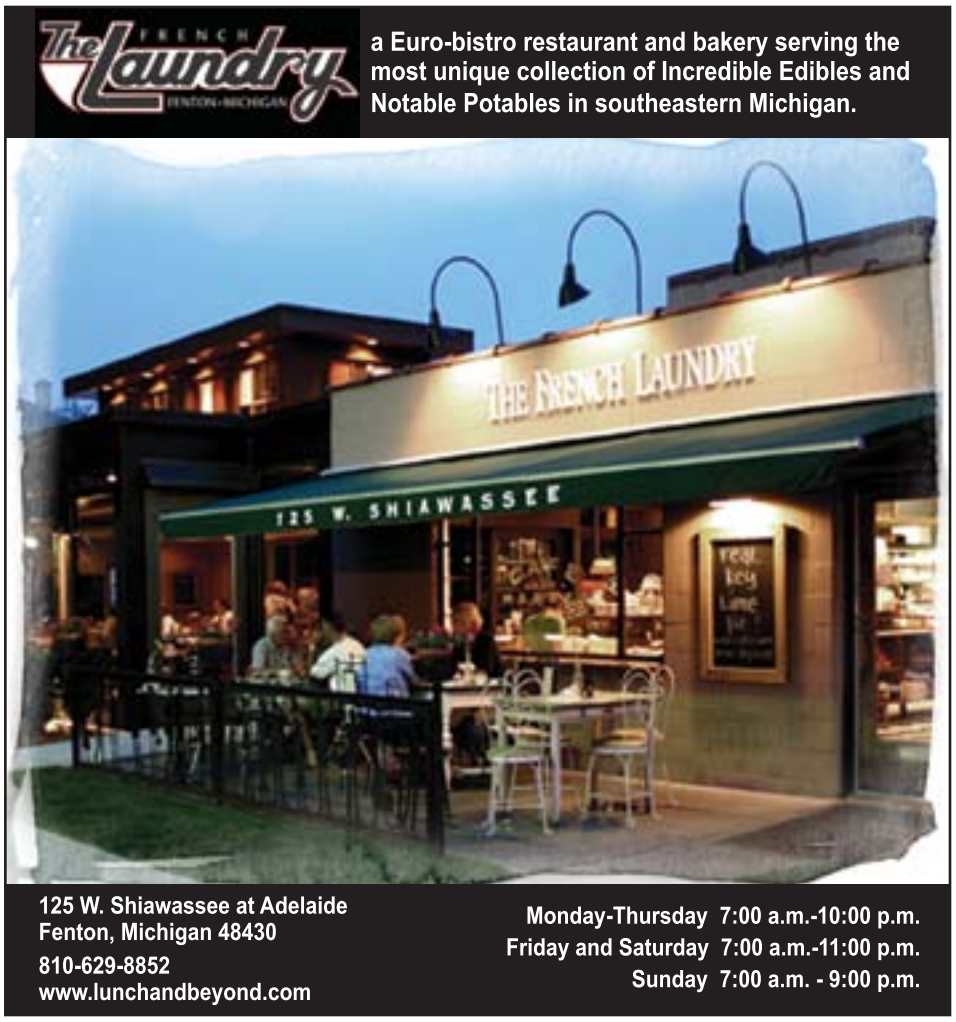
Conway-Welch's statements are being received with praise by anti-criminalization advocates.

Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.) -- who has sponsored legislation that would encourage reform of state and federal HIV policies -- said: "I'm very please she has taken this bold step to join us. It is a very important step. I look forward to working with her."

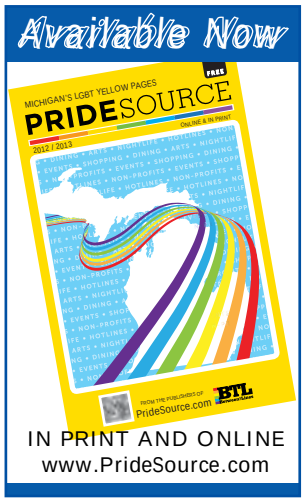
"I think it is noteworthy, especially if it helps prevent the issue from being positioned in a partisan manner in state legislatures," added Sean Strub, executive director of the Sero Project, a nonprofit group working to repeal HIV criminal laws. "This isn't a Democrat/Republican, Liberal/Conservative issue, but those coming at it from our political perspective sometimes can't help but view it within the incredibly polarized political environment. It is a public health issue and Dr. Welch is a respected public health leader. Her willingness to reconsider the issue, in light of contemporary science, is a reflection of her professionalism."

Gretchen Waddell Barrick, communications and advocacy associate at Doors Interfaith AIDS Housing Program in Missouri, concurred with Strub. She is working with advocates in Missouri to repeal that state's HIV-specific criminal law. In an email to TAI, she said that Conway-Welch's statements are "very important" and that such laws "cause only harm to our community."

ROOSTERS MEN'S GROOMING CENTER
ROOSTERS
MEN'S GROOMING CENTER
The highly qualified stylists at Roosters are specially trained in men's precision shaves and haircuts, complete with hot steam towel, dry & style, head massaging shampoo, brush of powder around your neck and a splash of aftershave, while relaxing in an oversized leather barber chair.
THE EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR IS FINALLY HERE.
37819 W. Twelve Mile Rd.
Farmington Hills
248.987.4844
ROOSTERSMGC.COM
$10 GIFT CARD


The French Laundry
FENTON • MICHIGAN
a Euro-bistro restaurant and bakery serving the most unique collection of Incredible Edibles and Notable Potables in southeastern Michigan.
THE FRENCH LAUNDRY
125 W. SHIAWASSEE
125 W. Shiawassee at Adelaide
Fenton, Michigan 48430
810-629-8852
www.lunchandbeyond.com
Monday-Thursday 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday 7:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.
Sunday 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

We Are Open Christmas Eve
And Christmas Day
COMO'S
Christmas Day Dinner Buffet
$14.95 Per Person Includes:
Kids Under 4 Free
Children Ages 5 To 10 $6.95
22812 Woodward Ave, Ferndale MI 48220
(248) 548-5005 comosferndale.com


Available Now
MICHIGAN'S LGBT YELLOW PAGES
PRIDESOURCE
2012 / 2013
IN PRINT AND ONLINE
www.PrideSource.com

HAGOPIAN
Clean Up For The Holidays
RUG CLEANING
2 for 1
Whether you have 2, 4, 6 or even 20 rugs, bring them to us & we'll clean every other one FREE!
Ask about our expert rug repair!
IN-HOME CLEANING
4 ROOMS $99.99
2 ROOMS $59.99
7' SOFA OR 2 CHAIRS $59.99
Let us clean your tile & grout too!
IT TAKES A GENIUS
Beautifying Homes & Businesses since 1939
1-800-HAGOPIAN (424-6742)
www.originalhagopian.com
RUG CARE CENTERS AND SHOWROOMS
OAK PARK | BIRMINGHAM | NOVI | UTICA | ANN ARBOR

http://www.pridesource.com/directory.html
Michigan's LGBT Yellow Pages
in Print or Fully Searchable Online!!!
Over 1000 LGBT Owned and Friendly Businesses and Non-Profit Organizations

SUBARU share the love EVENT

alzheimer's association · ASPCA · MAKE-A-WISH · Meals On Wheels · USO

Get a great deal. Support a great cause. With every new Subaru purchased or leased, we're donating $250 to your choice of five charities. Now through January 2.

SUBARU Confidence in Motion

2012 SUBARU LEGACY 2.5i
- Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive
- CVT Transmission

$23,941 MSRP
-$555 Option Package Discount
-$1,400 Share the Love Discount
$21,986 Your Price

CAB

2012 SUBARU FORESTER 2.5X
- Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive
- Automatic Transmission
- Alloy Wheels
- Roof Rails

$24,304 MSRP
-$500 Option Package Discount
-$2,300 Share the Love Discount
$21,504 Your Price

CFB

HODGES SUBARU
Metro Detroit's "Subaru-Only Dealer"

23100 Woodward Ave • Ferndale • MI • 48220
248.547.8800 • www.hodgessubaru.com

HOURS: OPEN SATURDAYS 10-3 AND
ENTENDED HOURS TILL 9PM MONDAYS & THURSDAYS

*See dealer for details. Subaru will donate $250 for every new Subaru vehicle sold or leased from November 21, 2012 through January 2, 2013 to one of the five participating charities designated by the purchaser, up to $5,000,000 total. Purchasers must make their charity designations by January 31, 2013. See Subaru.com/share for details. A minimum donation of $250,000 will be made to each participating charity. All donations made by Subaru of America, Inc. Subaru, Forester, Outback, Tribeca, Legacy, Impreza, WRX, STI and SUBARU BOXER are registered trademarks.

Bette Midler
The Showgirl Goes On

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

More than 30 years have passed since Bette Midler made her screen debut as a rocker with a self-destructive drug habit. The film, 1979's "The Rose," turned the Hawaii native's dreams, and her nights performing for half-naked gay men at a New York City bathhouse, into a legendary and undeniably influential career in music – the title song is one of her biggest hits – and in film.

Later roles would include parts in "Beaches," "Hocus Pocus" and "The First Wives Club," all of which go down as gay cult classics. A star of the stage, screen and recording studio, with numerous Grammys, Golden Globes and Emmys to her name – even the moniker "The Divine Miss M" doesn't quite do her justice.

But now that the curtain's closed on her two-year Las Vegas spectacle – "The Showgirl Must Go On" wrapped in 2010 – she returns as a leading lady in her first major picture in more than a decade. In "Parental Guidance," out Dec. 25, the 67-year-old plays a grandparent alongside Billy Crystal, who both *try* to navigate modern-day parenting conundrums when they're stuck watching their daughter's three kids.

In this chat with Midler, she talked about "Parental Guidance" – including the film's stance on bullying – and the "bittersweet" beginning of her career.

You share some similarities with your character, Diane Decker, in "Parental Guidance." One thing I'd like to believe you don't have in common with her, though, is when one of the kids dresses up as a girl. You would have let that boy wear those high heels, wouldn't you have?

I haven't seen it. I wasn't in that scene.

The part where you and Billy Crystal won't let the youngest boy go to school in those heels – that wasn't you?

(Laughs) Oh, yes – that's right.

You would have let him wear those, right?

What are you trying to get at?

That you're a gay icon. I could see you being OK with him in heels.

I sort of try to avoid encouraging kids to be hustlers.

The movie also takes a stand against bullying. It suggests standing up for yourself and fighting back. Is that what you would tell a kid? What would your advice be?

I would tell them to tell someone immediately. Tell a grown-up. Tell an older person immediately that this is happening. Say, "Please help me stop this." You shouldn't keep it a secret. I would encourage a child not to keep it a secret and to get help as quick as they can, and if they don't get help in one place, try to get help in another place.

It's completely unacceptable. It's a big country and there are so many different kinds of people in this country now – and everybody doesn't raise their kids the right way, you know? Sometimes children who are a little bit different are not considered – and they have to be! Everybody has to be considered and treated fairly. It's just unacceptable.

You must've appreciated that "Parental Guidance" spotlighted that issue, right?

Oh, you know, Billy's a guy with a pretty big heart, and he's a fair-minded guy and I'm sure that was something he never even thought of *not* putting in. Of course he'd be a fan of doing the right thing.

Who came up with the singing bits in the film? You and Billy?

It was his idea. We had been singing to the kids to keep them entertained for a week or two. We had a big tornado scare and everyone was in the basement at one time, so we were entertaining the kids. It just sort of happened that we were singing these doo-wop novelty songs, and the kids seemed to like them. They had never heard any of this stuff before, so it just sort of fell into place and seemed like a fun addition to the movie.

Which songs were you singing?

"Get a Job," "Yakety Yak" and "Poison Ivy" – the old Leiber and Stoller catalog. Both of us are around the same age, so that's our childhood music. We're very steeped in it.

It was cool to see musical-director Marc Shaiman's name on the project too, because you've worked together before. What was it like having him work on "Parental Guidance," as well?

He's a dear friend of Billy's and a dear friend of mine, so when they needed someone to score the picture, Billy brought him up because he has such a great sense of humor.

Your career started in the '70s when you performed with Barry Manilow at the Continental Baths in Manhattan, where you got your nickname "Bathhouse Bette." Do you have any good stories or memories from those days?

To tell you the truth, it's in the dim, dark recess

‘Miss M’ Talks Boys In Heels, Bullying & ‘Bittersweet’ Bathhouse Days

of time. I remember I had a wonderful time. I remember I made a great mark. I remember that I had a lot of friends in the gay world. I mean, I remember friends more than I remember instances. Unfortunately, a lot of those people are gone, and I think about them often. They would’ve just been hitting their stride at this point. It’s very bittersweet.

You mention having lots of gay friends then, but I’m sure there’s no shortage of them in your life now.

Of course I have a lot of gay friends. I’m in show business!

Do you still keep in touch with anyone from those bathhouse days?

Actually, most of them have passed. I hear from a couple of people. My old assistant from those days is still in my life, and so is my costumer. We’re still in touch and I see a couple of the girls, The Harlots, from time to time. But honestly, it’s a big, big life and a big world, and people go off on their own and do what they do. Everyone tries to do the best they can.

I will say that in the old days when all of this was all so underground, the excitement in the gay community now about gay marriage and coming above the ground, older people (must) think, “Wow, look how far the gay community has come by sticking together and toughing it out.” You know, gay marriage, being able to adopt children, being part of the mainstream as opposed to always being sub rosa – it must be so fascinating and such a strong validation.

You’ve really seen the evolution of the gay rights movement.

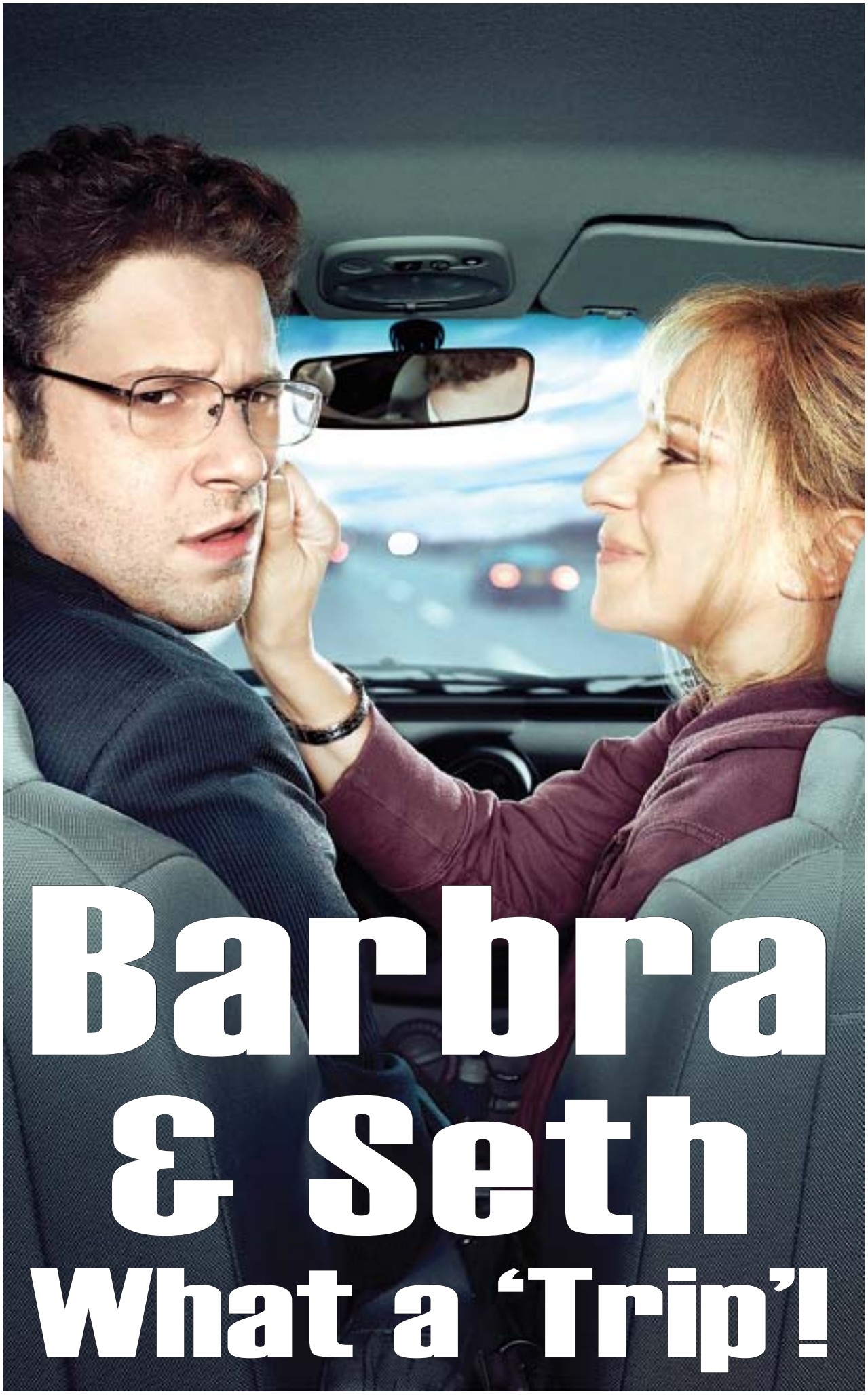
I certainly have.

You were at the forefront of it when you got your start, so where do you think – or where do you hope – the gay movement is headed?

I’m not gay so it’s kind of hard for me to answer that question. I watch and I’m fascinated and I’m interested. And I’m enthusiastic. I’m all those things. I try to help where I can. I just think it’s just fantastic for the gay community. Just fantastic. And I know they’re happy. I know there’s a lot of joy in the community. I know there are a lot of people who are very, very excited about the change that all this acceptance has given them. I know it’s a real thrill. At the same time, there’s also the part that was exciting because there was nothing that they were allowed to do. There was all this stuff about doing things under the radar that was also

See Bette Midler, page 20

Photo: Kerry Hayes



Barbra & Seth What a 'Trip'!

Stars Talk New Movie, Working Together & Being Gay Icons

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Barbra Streisand takes center stage, but she's not busting out "The Way We Were." Not today, anyway.

The legend is promoting her first major film in 16 years at the Four Seasons Los Angeles. Her hair is perfectly coiffed and – dressed in her usual all-black attire – she's got the off-the-shoulder look going on.

Hello, gorgeous, indeed.

Not long into the interview, a makeup artist waiting in the wings pats any remnants of forehead sweat. You don't let a legend perspire – and Barbra Streisand is the epitome of an American treasure: a consummate singer with a timeless mezzo-soprano; an Emmy, Oscar and Grammy award winner; and the actress who stole hearts in "A Star is Born." To us, a gay icon.

After a short stint of recent sold-out shows, Streisand returns to starring-role status in "The Guilt Trip" alongside goofball Seth Rogen – for real: Babs with the "Zack and Miri Make a Porno" actor – as a mother-son duo that goes road-tripping together and gets into all sorts of shenanigans. If it weren't for director Anne Fletcher ("The Proposal"), a Detroit native who would only do the film with Babs, there'd be no movie – and, worse, no Barbra.

Streisand, along with Rogen and Fletcher, sat down to chat about the reason she finally gave in (thank her own gay son for that), what she thinks of being a gay icon and how she's managed to stay successful for nearly six decades.

What was it like meeting each other for the first time?

Barbra Streisand: Seth sussed me out. He called people.

Seth Rogen: And she checked out. This Barbra Streisand lady checked out. So I thought I'd give her a shot. (Laughs)

BS: I didn't know who to call. I don't know any of those people from his movies, so what was I gonna do? No – I thought he was adorable.

What are you two like off set?

SR: The way we talk in real life is not entirely different than our rapport in the movie. It's a lot of me trying to explain things to her about modern times and her trying to feed me shit I don't want to eat.

BS: I was the one with the iPhone.

SR: She had an iPhone before me. I was like, "I gotta get myself one of these. If Barbra can work an iPhone, it's gotta be fun."

BS: Yesterday he asked me if I had a Twitter account. I said, "I don't know."

SR: I showed her that she did! I change her clocks during daylight savings and all that stuff.

You must know a lot of gay people are going to see this movie –

BS: We hope so.

Because Seth is such a huge gay icon.

SR: (Sarcastically) I'm a gay icon? Do gay people like Barbra, too? I didn't know that.

Barbra, how do you feel about the label of "gay icon" – and do you think your own son, Jason Gould, thinks of you as one?

BS: He doesn't see me as an icon. He sees me as his mother who touches his hair too much. No – I love being an icon to anybody. Equal rights, you know!

SR: Yeah. Me too. (Laughs)

See Guilt Trip, page 22

WE BUY GOLD
SILVER &
DIAMONDS

Fine Jewelry & Gift Gallery

Receive $30

towards purchase of
$75 or more

Expires 12/31/12

- CUSTOM DESIGNS
- JEWELRY REPAIR
- SPECIAL ORDERS
- REMOUNTS
- DIAMOND SETTING

22754 Woodward Ave. Ferndale, MI 48220
Phone: 248-546-1938 Hours: Mon-Sat 11-6

Female High Heels and Boots Made to Fit Men and Women

Visit the Store Mon.-Sat. 10am - 6pm or Shop Online at www.JanetsCloset.com

25% OFF SALE

Le Dame Footwear

- Wide Widths and Wide Calves
- Cushion Support for Comfort
- Guaranteed Strength and Durability
- Order in Normal Women's Size
- Made to Fit Men's Feet
- Size up to 17
- Supports up to 400 lbs
- American Made Leathers
- Unique & Well Engineered

Janet's Closet

2317 Fort Street Wyandotte
734-285-2609

All Types of Lingerie in XS-5X

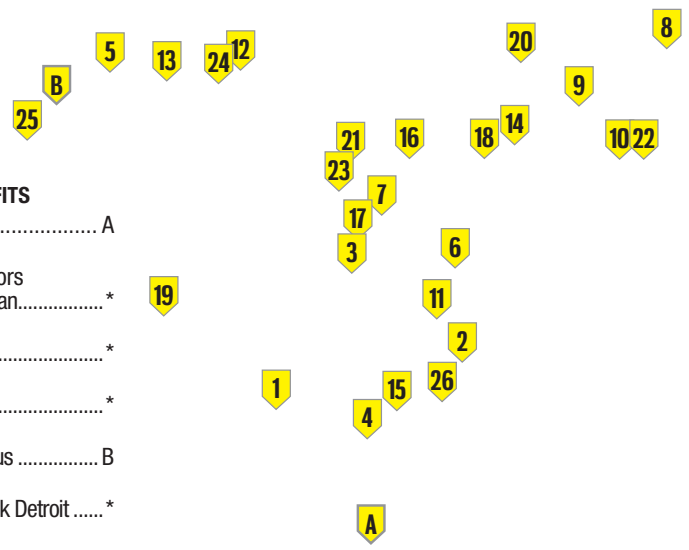
Over 350 Wigs in Stock!

All Shapes & Sizes of Breast Forms!

Lingerie, Wigs, Breast Forms, Boots and Shoes & More For EVERYONE!

BTL
Cool Cities
Royal Oak

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD • YOUR MARKET
Pinpoint your ad dollars where
they will do the most good . . .
Advertise in the next Cool Cities
TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200



LGBT Non-Profits

Common Ground ..... A
586-573-9932

Gay/Lesbian Educators Association Of Michigan ..... *
586-573-9932

Higher Ground ..... *
www.hghiv.org

Lambda Car Club ..... *
lccdetroit.org

Sing Out Detroit Chorus ..... B
www.singoutdetroit.com

Steppin' Out AIDS Walk Detroit ..... *
www.aidswalkdetroit.org

BTL Advertisers

Attorney Pierce 1
Autometic Body Shop ..... *
B&B Collission 2
Bidwell Tovarez Pllc 3
Buttons Rent-it 4
C & N Party Rentals ..... *
Christine Cantrell, Ph.D. 5
Changez Salon ..... *
Cloverleaf Fine Wine 6
D.J. Murray Plumbing ..... *
Daniel Joseph Salon ..... *
Carol Dufraine Attorney At Law . *
Edward Korkoian Funeral Home *
Five 15 7
Fuller Life 8
Steven M Gittleman 1
Harbour Tax & Accounting ..... *
Thomas Herbst, Md 9
Ital Moda ..... *
Denise Joseph, Ph.D. 5
Rosemary A. Jozwiak and Associates 10
Joe Kort, Ph.D. & Associates, PC . 1
Kuderik & Associates 11
Manzo Eye Care 12
Miner's Den ..... *
Motor City Auto Spa 13
Namaste Yoga 14
New Beginnings Counseling Center 15
Noir Leather 16
North Main Animal Hospital ..... *
Thane Ostroth Dds ..... *
Dr. Bernadine Petzold PhD, L.P.C. B.C.P.C. 10
The Print Stop ..... *
Pronto! Restaurant & Video Bar 17
Rasor Law Firm 18
RE/MAX Jim Shaffer 19
Royal Oak Farmer's Market 20
Royal Oak Music Theatre 21
Runaway Bride ..... *
Shelton & Dean Law Office 22
Stagecrafters 23
Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors 24
Matt Sweet, MSW, PC 1
Susie Symons, Ma, Lpc 9
Two Bags & A Mower ..... *
Ron T. Williamson Dds 25
ZMC Pharmacy 26

* Not shown on map

GREAT LAKES COLLISION, INC.

100% Customer Satisfaction is Our Goal!

The amazing benefits you receive by partnering with Great Lakes Collision:

- Free pickup / delivery service!
- We work with all insurance companies
- Great rates on lease turn ins
- Fast and free estimates

Andrew Beesley
110 W. Ten Mile Rd., Madison Heights, MI 48071

GREAT LAKES COLLISION, INC.
248-543-8018
www.greatlakescollision.com

ROSEMARY A. JOZWIAK
And Associates

Affordable Professional Services

Anxiety – Depression – Trauma
Anger Management
Breakup Recovery – Grief / Loss
ACOA – Addictions
Relationship or Family Conflicts
Life Transition – Chronic Illness
Gender Identity Struggles

We offer practical strategies you can use at once.
Traditional and Alternative Methods to fit your needs.

(248) 546-9402 – Royal Oak, MI
www.therapy4you.com

PSYCHOTHERAPY • EMDR • ADULTS • ADOLESCENTS • COUPLES

SUSIE SYMONS
M.A., L.P.C.

IT'S YOUR LIFE.
LET'S MAKE IT WORK.
May I be your guide?
Call 248.591.0070

STSYMONS.COM
217 KNOWLES STREET • SUITE 250 ROYAL OAK • MI 48067

MANZO EYE CARE

David L. Manzo, M.D.
Ophthalmologist

Kathryn A. Baruch, O.D.
Optometrist

- General Ophthalmology
- Laser Vision Correction
- Cataract/Implant Surgery
- Glaucoma
- Pediatric Exams
- Optical Shop
- Contact Lenses

621 West 11 Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
248-541-4200
www.manzoeyecare.com

BTL Readers!!! $250 Savings on Lasik* Call Karen for Details

*Mention BTL when calling for details. Some restrictions apply

Michigan's LGBT Yellow Pages

2012/2013 EDITION

IN PRINT AND ONLINE
Over 1000 businesses and non-profits listed!

www.PrideSource.com

MICHIGAN'S LGBT YELLOW PAGES
PRIDESOURCE

BTL
Cool Cities
Royal Oak

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD • YOUR MARKET
Pinpoint your ad dollars where they will do the most good . . .
Advertise in the next Cool Cities
TO PLACE AN AD CALL 734.293.7200

SHELTON & DEON Law Group
Anticipate Innovate Advocate

Providing legal services for individuals, businesses, families, LGBT

248-494-7444

612 East 4th Street
Royal Oak, MI 48067
www.sheltondeonlawgroup.com

STEVEN M. GITTLEMAN
Attorney and Counselor at Law

Estate Planning | Tax Matters | Business Transactions

25600 Woodward, Ste. 206
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067
phone 248.336.1000
fax 248.336.8678

BTL

Be included in our Royal Oak Cool Cities Pages

Call us today: 734-293–7200 x13

NOIR LEATHER

Vibes & Sex Toys
Shoes & Boots
Stockings & Lingerie
Rings & Necklaces
Lubes & Oils
Skirts & Dresses
Wigs & Makeup

25% Off Your Most Expensive Gift When Buying 3 or More Items!

124 W 4TH ST ROYAL OAK 248-541-3979
MON-TH 11-9 FRI-SAT 11-10 SUN 12-5 WWW.NOIRLEATHER.COM

BUTTON'S RENT-IT
RENTING TOOLS & EQUIPMENT SINCE 1949
Great Service * Expert Advice * Good Equipment
See our website for equipment list and rates
Website: www.buttonsrentit.com E-mail: buttonsrentit@aol.com
OR CALL US - 248-542-5835
Open Mon thru Sat- Delivery Available - Small Engine Repairs/Tune-Ups
We Accept: Cash-Visa-MasterCard-Discover-American Express
1126 S. Washington Royal Oak (between Lincoln & Woodward)

10% off any rental w/coupon
We will except the coupon if you show it on their blackberry or cranberry, etc
Expires: 1/31/13
BUTTON'S RENT-IT
248-542-5835

Seth Rogen, Barbra Streisand and Anne Fletcher on the set of "The Guilt Trip." Photo: Paramount Pictures

► Guilt Trip

Continued from p. 16

What did your gay friends think when you told them you were working with Barbra?

Anne Fletcher: Everyone in my life is gay, but I have one best friend who has been obsessed with her since he was a child. His entire childhood was saved because of Barbra – with her music and her movies. His mom had just died four or five years ago, so for him to meet her on the movie – and her and I having such a relationship – was just full circle.

Tell me about growing up in Detroit.

AF: What you learn there – your instinct and your street smarts – is like nothing else. You just don't mess with me. But I love Detroit with my soul. I come home every Christmas and I love to go to all my stomping grounds from where we grew up in Belle Isle. I wish I could be rich to own the whole island to make it what it was when I was a kid. I love it because it's my heart.

Barbra, how much contact did you and Jason have when you were considering the role?

BS: He actually was very important in my decision to make the movie. He was recovering from back surgery, so he was in bed for a few days after, and I brought the script over and we read it out loud. It was interesting, actually. His father was in the room, too. Isn't that funny? We were both coddling our son, so he became the audience and Jason was reading the parts with me and he said, "I think you should do it, Mom." I really trust his integrity and his opinion. He has great taste in whatever he chooses to do. And he clinched the deal.

AF: I was with you all over the world, but I love that Jason just one night says, "Yes, Mom, do it." (I said that) for a whole year!

BS: Well, he's my son. (Laughs)

What about reading it with your son sealed the deal?

BS: Mothers develop guilt trips. I feel guilty as a parent that I couldn't pick up my son every day from school and bake him cookies. I know that feeling. I know that feeling *a lot*. Having a famous parent is an odd thing. I thought it was interesting to investigate trying to be my son's friend versus a mother.

It was a true story. It's (writer) Dan (Fogelman) and his mother. She was a fan of mine, and Dan wrote this lovely script. It just felt like it was meant to be. Meant for me to come back to work in a starring role. It was time to challenge myself again.

Of course, I made it very difficult for them to hire me, because I kept wanting an out: "I really don't wanna schlep to Paramount. It's two hours each way, so would you, like, rent a warehouse and build the sets in the Valley no more than 45 minutes from my house?" They said yes.

AF: I wasn't gonna do this movie without these two. There wasn't backup. If Seth said no, there was no replacement; if Barbra said no, there was no replacement. It was them, or I wasn't gonna make the movie.

BS: I said to Anne, "Would you make the movie without me?" And she said no. And I felt bad! Another guilt trip, right?

SR: I was open to Shirley MacLaine. (Laughs) No, it's not true. I only would've done it if Barbra was doing it.

BS: It was great to feel wanted.

Who is another gay icon you want to work with, Anne?

AF: I don't really like the "gay icons," by the way. I don't really respond to them very well. I think Barbra is so grounded in many different things, but there's some of them – I'm really insulting gay sensibility. (Laughs) But Liza Minnelli. I do love Liza.

What was Barbra like? What surprised you most about her?

AF: We became friends instantly. She's easygoing, funny, kind, strong and knows who she is. She's unbelievably awesome. She'd tell me some of the greatest, most personable stories that happened in her life that I can't remember one iota of. My best friend's a little pissed about that. (Laughs)

I imagine directing a legend like Barbra Streisand would be intimidating. Was it? Did she call the shots?

AF: It's not intimidating. She comes to work as an actor, as an artist, and she's been doing it for so long that all the pieces fall back into place exactly how they were. We're all there for the common good, so she would come to work as any other actor. She's a legend, so that's a little different. But it was never intimidating, because she's just so genuine. She had my back, and the support I had from her was extraordinary.

So no diva moments?

AF: Never. I know we've all heard the stories about her endlessly throughout all these years, but I can't say whether they're true or false. I just know from my experience I had an unbelievable experience with her, and I would do it again. She works harder than anyone. And her brain never shuts off. That's the only thing I would complain about! Like, "Please stop thinking for just five minutes – because I'm tired." (Laughs)

Even if people think of her as a diva, this role really takes you out of that mindset. You never think of Barbra Streisand, "the diva."

AF: That's the best compliment. I'm glad you say that. This was part of our conversation: "If we're gonna win the audience, you have to be every mother. You have to capture the essence of moms now. You can't be glamorous-beautiful. You have to be every mom for us to tell the story the right way."

Barbra, what's your beauty secret?

BS: God, what *is* my secret?

SR: Sitting next to me helps.

BS: (Laughs) He is so funny. If you knew all my self-doubt, my god – I don't know. Maybe I'm slightly childish.

AF: Your spirit is youthful.

BS: Yeah. I kind of like the child part of me.

What was harder for you, Barbra: the drama or the comedy elements of the film?

BS: Eating steak! That was the hardest thing, I think. But no, they're both the same. I don't think there's a distinction between how you play drama or comedy, if it's based in truth.

AF: This woman may not like steak, but she's a foodie. You've never met a foodie in your whole life until you've been with Barbra Streisand. This woman loves food more than anything – and she will eat it! She's a bottomless pit. We had many discussions about that steak scene. From Barbra's side it was, "Does it have to be that? It seems a little gross."

Anne, did Barbra ever break into song?

AF: Never. Barbra will not sing. I sang an awful lot to her. But she will not sing. There's a thing that she did in the movie that we cut out where she'd go, "Hmm, hmm, hmm." She would do rhythmic things that she does with her voice that only Barbra can do – and I would take that as singing. But she would never do it. Never. She's so rude. (Laughs) Give us a free concert, Barbra. She's like, "Pay for it!"

You can sing, act, produce, write and direct. What can't you do well?

BS: I can't cook at all. I mean, I would not know how to make coffee. I took cooking classes. I know how to make chocolate soufflé. Just ask me if I *want* to make it. I'd rather have somebody else make the chocolate soufflé – and I eat it. When I tried to cook, put it this way: It was never appetizing to eat. And the hands! So filthy with the stuff. And then cleaning up – no, I don't like that part.

Barbra, you must see a lot of scripts, right?

BS: I don't. You see, everybody thinks like you. Meanwhile, I go, "Where are the scripts?" (Laughs) It's not the same as when I last made a film. They're not interested in love stories. It's a different time. I don't like it as much.

What's the secret to your success?

BS: Oh my god. I don't make that many movies and I don't make that many appearances so I ...

SR: ... leave them wanting more.

BS: Less is more. Maybe that keeps a little mystery or something.

What do you want audiences to take away from the film?

BS: I want them to be moved and I want them to see themselves in the movie. I want them to get closer to their children. A lot of things. It's a transformative kind of movie. They start at one point and are both kind of tragically alone, not finding a mate, and then at the end there are many more possibilities. Horizons open. He took me out of my shell. It's about love. I always say it's a different kind of love story.

SR: Which to me sounds gross.

BS: See where your mind goes? Always to the sexual.

SR: Right in the gutter.

‘Jersey Boys’ Is A Knockout

BY JENN MCKEE

REVIEW

Jersey Boys

Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Tuesday-Sunday through Jan. 6, plus Monday, Jan. 31; no performances Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. 2 hours, 30 minutes; contains adult language. $34-$94. 313-872-1000.

www.broadwayindetroit.com

Though I’d been looking forward to seeing the Tony Award-winning musical “Jersey Boys” – now making a national tour stop at the Fisher Theater – for several years now, when the day finally arrived, I was a little reluctant to go.

This was because the Newtown tragedy happened that same morning, and it absorbed all of my attention for hours on end, making me feel scared and angry and vulnerable and heartbroken. Everyone in the sold out Fisher Theater (including the performers) likely felt the same way.

I even wondered, at some point on Friday, whether they might cancel the performance. But as the old cliche dictates, the show must go on – and with good reason, it turns out. For in numbing times of loss, theater invites and allows you to get out of your own head for a while and instead get lost in someone else’s story, offering a much-needed respite.

As if to underscore this, Friday night’s audience rushed to offer sustained, effusive applause after several of “Jersey Boys”’ infectious numbers. Even the performers looked a bit taken aback by the enthusiasm and energy that greeted them. And I say all this not to wax poetic, but rather to explain that my wild enthusiasm and appreciation for the show was likely amped up to even greater heights by the sense of gratitude I felt for getting the chance to experience something so polished, charming, well-crafted, and fun on what had been a dark, dark day.

The show, of course, tells the story of the 1960s pop sensation Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, consisting of: band founder and leader Tommy DeVito (John Gardiner), who has run-ins with the law and runs up gambling debts; routine-obsessed bass Nick Massi (Michael Lomenda); talented young songwriter Bobby Gaudio (Miles Jacoby); and the young guy with the angelic, high voice that made everyone sit up and take notice, Frankie Valli (Nick Cosgrove).

What you’ll notice within minutes of “Jersey Boys” is what capable hands you’re in, in terms of the storytelling. Book writers Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice masterfully cherry pick salient details from the group’s biography, and not a word or moment is wasted; meanwhile, director Des McAnuff keeps the pace snappy without ever losing clarity, so that even though we’re quickly hopping to different locales in the opening moments while absorbing the necessary exposition, the energy stays high, and the audience stays engaged.

It doesn’t hurt either, of course, that the cast is uniformly outstanding.

Lomenda is hilarious as quirky Nick; Gardiner makes Tommy self-assured and witty, but also low-burn menacing; Jacoby’s Bobby is unabashedly candid, aware of his strengths and weaknesses, and wise beyond his years; and Cosgrove is a knockout, with vocals that soar.

Klara Zieglerova designed “Jersey Boys” steel-girded set, which features a raised bridge across the stage that provides a second level for the play’s action. Jess Goldstein’s costume design helps The Four Seasons come to life more fully on stage, while also, with other characters, hinting at the passage of time. Michael Clark’s Roy Lichtenstein-inspired projections sometimes help establish setting, sometimes just echo the action; and Howell Binkley’s lighting design keeps the audience’s eye where it needs to be as the fast-paced tale unfolds. Finally, Sergio Trujillo’s choreography perfectly captures The Four Seasons’ crisp, synchronized dance moves; it’s a joy to watch.

Interestingly, “Jersey Boys,” in some ways, shouldn’t work as well as it does. When biographical adaptations try to focus on a broad range of time (as “Jersey Boys” does) instead of a specific, pivotal moment, they often feel shapeless, baggy and unsatisfying. And as a rule, I’m not a big fan of the juke box musical – the shows often feel painfully labored and self-conscious. But Brickman and Elice have cracked the code by letting each of the band members tell their side of the story, and incorporating The Four Seasons’ ear-candy music at perfect, and thematically relevant, intervals.

No, I wasn’t alive when The Four Seasons hit it big; and the show didn’t make me nostalgic for that time. Instead, it invited me to tag along on the group’s ride to fame, bumpy though it was. And I couldn’t have enjoyed it more.

Lynn B. D’Orio
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Family Law
Divorce: Pre & Post Judgment
Powers of Attorney
Child Welfare Law
Abuse & Neglect
Wills

Criminal Defense
Felonies & Misdemeanors:
Larceny / Burglary
Homicide / Murder
Assault Offenses
Drug Offenses

lynndorio@comcast.net
330 E. Liberty, Ste. 3D, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
phone: 1-734-913-5660 - fax: 1-734-913-5643

A Tension Getter
Massage Therapy
by David Rosenberg
(734) 662-6282
Therapeutic Massage gets rid of back, neck and shoulder pain

2 Downtown Locations
Ann Arbor
209 West Kingsley
(Couple blocks west of main, between Ashley & 1st.)
Berkley
W. 12 Mile Road
(just west of Greenfield)
“I can bring my massage table to your home, too!”

Massage Class for Men
Sheets, showers and lotions provided
Learn some massage techniques.
Meet others in a safe and caring environment.
Thursday at 2 pm.
Tuesdays & Saturdays at 8pm
$10 per session
209 W. Kingsley St.
Ann Arbor, MI
(734) 662-6282
Find me on the Internet at
http://www.trymassage.com

Happenings

OUTINGS

Thursday, Dec. 20

Gender Non-Conformists 7 p.m. A social and discussion group for transgender, genderqueer, gender-neutral and gender-exploring individuals. Space also available to significant others. Meets every Thursday. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. JJenkins@GoAffirmations.org GoAffirmations.org

Resource Center Health Group 7 p.m. LGBTQ and allied teens 13-18. E-mail for more info. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., Kalamazoo. 259-381-2437.Youth@KGLRC.org Kglrc.org

Polyamory Network 7:30 p.m. Open and inclusive community of people living polyamorously, people interested in polyamory and people of, friendly to and curious about polyamory. Welcomes diversity of sexual orientation and gender identity. Polyamory Network, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor.** 734-995-9867. Jimtoycenter.org

Friday, Dec. 21

Bisexual Peer Group 7 p.m. Our group meets monthly on the third Friday & discussion relates to bisexual identity. Building is handicap accessible using ramp to rear entrance. Bisexual Peer Group, 319 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor.** 734-678-2478.Biprideannarbor@gmail.comFacebook.com/groups/110918256984/

Womyn's Film Night 7 p.m. Film: My Summer of Love; Pawel Pawlikowski's BAFTA award-winning film juxtaposes the secret longings of two very different young women: Mona, who's bored and tired of poverty, and Tamsin, who's long ceased to be impressed with her well-heeled lifestyle. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105 . Goaffirmations.org/

Bright and Gay Cabaret 8 p.m. Lansing Women's Chorus, Sistrum's winter concert. Tickets: $12-25. Sistrum, Lansing Women's Chorus, 215 N. Capital Ave., Lansing. Sistrum.org

The Real L Word (Ladies Night @ Liquid) 9 p.m. Every Friday, it's ladies night at Club Liquid Detroit with DJ Lena. MC Lyrik Drag King Teddy, $5 cover. DJ Lena, 3537 E. Seven mile Road, Detroit. 313-826-1192.Djsirlena@gmail.com Facebook.com/liquiddetroit

Sunday, Dec. 23

Bright and Gay Cabaret 8 p.m. Lansing Women's Chorus, Sistrum's winter concert. Tickets: $12-25. Sistrum, Lansing Women's Chorus, 215 N. Capital Ave., Lansing. Sistrum.org

Conversation Station 5 p.m. LGBTQI (and allies) 35 and over - join GOAL each week for discussion, food and fun. Topic: Do you think there are extraterrestrials that influence events on earth? GOAL, 714 S. Washington St., Royal Oak. 248-981-4227.MarciLWilliams@yahoo.com GetOutAndLive.me

Monday, Dec. 24

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous 7 p.m. A weekly anonymous 12 step group for those who are facing sexually compulsive behaviors. Affirmations, 290 W. 9 Mile Road, **Ferndale.** 248-398-7105. GoAffirmations.org

PFLAG Battle Creek 7 p.m. Meets monthly at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Affiliated with BC Pride. PFLAG Battle Creek, 16 E. Van Buren, Battle Creek.

Wednesday, Dec. 26

Senior Koffee Klatch 1 p.m. A lively, discussion and social group for LGBT adults over 45. Group covers topics pertaining to aging and outside speakers. Potluck dinners at members homes, lunches out and holiday parties. Meets ever Wednesday on the upper level of the Affirmations building. Senior Koffee Klatch, 290 W. Road Mile Road, **Ferndale.** 586-573-9932. GoAffirmations.org

Wild Wednesday 6 p.m. A group for youth ages 12-18 interested in hanging out with other kind and supportive youth in a safe environment. Dedicated to Make a Change, 319 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 734-657-1792. Gail@dedicatedtomakeachange.com Dedicatedtomakeachange.com

Newly Single Support Group 6:30 p.m. Group for all dealing with the end of a relationship and want to talk - or listen - to others who share similar experiences. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

Thursday, Dec. 27

Gender Non-Conformists 7 p.m. A social and discussion group for transgender, genderqueer, gender-neutral and gender-exploring individuals. Space also available to significant others. Meets every Thursday. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. 248-398-7105.JJenkins@GoAffirmations.org GoAffirmations.org

Euchre Tournament - Benefit for Out Loud Chorus 7 p.m. Entry: $10. Cash prizes awarded. No partner necessary, all levels of ability welcome. Food and beverage service available. Out Loud Chorus, 1950 S. Industrial Hwy, Ann Arbor. 734-652-0801.OutLoudChorus@gmail.comOlconline.org

Speak Out 7 p.m. Offers a welcoming environment for LGBT people to improve their public speaking and leadership skills. Meets the first and fourth Thursday of every month. Jim Toy Community Center, 319 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 734-995-9867.Crystalr@jimtoycenter.org

Friday, Dec. 28

50 and Better Friday Group 7 p.m. Designed for those 50 and better looking for an excuse to get out of the house. Goes out every other week or so for miniature golf, a movie, or other activity, per vote. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., Kalamazoo. 269-349-4234. PhoenixChurch.org

Coping with Disabilities Group 1 p.m. Ongoing discussion group for adults with disabilities. Discussions about LGBT friendly doctors, counseling, health benefits, and activities. Every second and fourth Wednesday. Handicapped accessible. Affirmations, 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale.** 248-398-7105. Goaffirmations.org

MUSIC & MORE

CLASSICAL

Kerrytown Concert House "Possible Futures: Winter Solstice Concert" Tickets: $5-25. Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Dec. 21.734-769-2999. KerryTownConcertHouse.com

The Palace "Trans-Siberian Orchestra" Tickets: $33-73. Palace of Auburn Hills, 5 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. 3 p.m. Dec. 29, 8 p.m. Dec. 29.248-377-0100. Palacenet.com

CONCERTS

The Detroit Institute of Arts "A Jazz Nutcracker featuring the Mike Jellick Quartet" This modern jazz version of Tchaikovsky's holiday classic The Nutcracker Suite was written by Detroiter Mike Jellick, who is joined by Miles Brown on bass, Jesse Kramer on drums, Kira Frabotta on vocals and Marcus Elliot on saxophones. Detroit Institute of Arts, 2100 Woodward, Detroit. 7 p.m. Dec. 21, 8:30 p.m. Dec. 21.313-833-7900. DIA.org

Kalamazoo State Theatre "Studebaker John" 2013 Bud Blues Series Announcement Show. Tickets: $11-15. Kalamazoo State Theatre, 404 S. Burdick, Kalamazoo. 8 p.m. Dec. 21.269-345-650. KazooState.com

Oak Park Arts and Cultural Commissionw "Holiday Music Flute and Piano Recital" Join flutist Jeffrey Beyer and pianist Sharon Sweet for an evening of holiday and classical music. A free will offering will be collected to benefit the Oak Park Arts and Cultural Commission. Oak Park Public Library, 14200 Oak Park Blvd, Oak Park. 6:30 p.m. Dec. 19.248-691-7481.

The Ark "Kitty Donohoe" Tickets: $15. The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Dec. 19.734-761-1800. TheArk.org

The Ark "Black Jake & the Carnies" Black Jake & the Carnies set fierce murder ballads, dark warnings, and a certain tough rust-belt revivalism to the beat of an old-time string band. Tickets: $15. The Ark, 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 21.734-761-1800. TheArk.org

The Fillmore Detroit "Brantley Gilbert" WYCDs Holiday at the Fillmore with Brantley Gilbert. Tickets: $30-49.50. Fillmore Detroit, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 7 p.m. Dec. 28. TheFillmoreDetroit.com

The Majestic "The Sights' Christmas Waltz" Like the Last Waltz, The Sights' Christmas Waltz is a chance to relax and enjoy a celebration of music - lots of special guests performing songs you'll never hear again with once-in-a-lifetime lineups. Cover: $8. Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave, Detroit. 9 p.m. Dec. 27.313-833-9700. MajesticDetroit.com

The Majestic "New Year's Eve Silver Soiree" Celebrate the arrival of 2013 in the Magic Stick and Garden Bowl with Detroit's finest bands including: Amy Gore & Her Vanentines, Twine Time, Replicas, Weed Nap, Heat Lightning, Patrick Davy & The Ghosts, Growwing Pains, Fake Surfers, Chit Chat, Kickstand Band, Habibi, Rooftop Vigilantes, Mouth Breathers, Peach Pit, Sugarcoats, Pupils, Jeecy & the Jungle, Michael & the Particle, Mexican Knives & Sisters of Your Sunshine Vapor. Cover: $5. Magic Stick, 4120 Woodward Ave, Detroit. 7 p.m. Dec. 31.313-833-9700. MajesticDetroit.com

THEATER

CIVIC/COMMUNITY THEATER

Anne of Green Gables $12; $5 ages 12 and younger. Warren Civic Theatre at Warren Community Center, 5460 Arden, Warren. Dec. 21 - 23. 586-268-8400. www.warrencivic.org

Christmas Belles $11-12. The Twin City Players, 600 W. Glenlord Road, St. Joseph. Through Dec. 23. 269-429-0400. www.TwinCityPlayers.org

Home for the Holidays $30. Peppermint Creek Theatre at Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. 7 p.m. Dec. 21. 517-927-3016. www.peppermintcreek.org

The 1940's Radio Hour $16-18. Farmington Players, 32332 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Through Dec. 22. 248-553-2955. www.FarmingtonPlayers.org

PROFESSIONAL

A Christmas Carol $17-$40. Meadow Brook Theatre, 2200 N. Squirrel Rd., Rochester. Through Dec. 23. 248-377-3300. www.mbtheatre.com

A Little Night Music $30-$46. Performance Network Theatre, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor. Through Dec. 30. 734-663-0681. www.performancenetwork.org

A Paradise of Fools $17 in advance, $20 at the door. Detroit Repertory Theatre, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. Through Dec. 23. 313-868-1347. www.detroitreptheatre.com

A Year with Frog and Toad $16-$18 adult, $14-$16 senior & teen, $12-$14 child. Flint Youth Theatre, 1220 East Kearsley St., Flint. Through Dec. 23. 810-237-1530. www.FlintYouthTheatre.org

Adult Education: Storytelling After Hours $10. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. Dec. 27. 269-756-3879. www.acorntheater.com

Christmas at The Acorn $25. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. Dec. 22. 269-756-3879. www.acorntheater.com

Christmas Belles $15-18. Broadway Onstage, 21517 Kelly Road, Eastpointe. Through Dec. 22. 586-771-6333. www.Broadwayonstage.com

Dr. Suess' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical $29-$62. Broadway in Detroit, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. Dec. 18 - Dec. 30. 313-872-1000. www.broadwayindetroit.com

Faith Healer Free; donations accepted. The Abreact Performance Space, 1301 W. Lafayette, #113, Detroit. Through Dec. 29. www.theabreact.com

Home for the Holidays $28. Dionysus Theatre and Performing Arts Academy at Hartland High School Auditorium, 10635 Dunham Rd., Hartland. Through Dec. 23. 517-672-6009. www.diotheatre.com

I Do! I Do! $38-$45; $50 (6 p.m.) and $60 (9 p.m.) New Year's Eve. The Jewish Ensemble Theatre Company at Aaron DeRoy Theatre on the campus of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road., West Bloomfield. Through Dec. 30. 248-788-2900. www.jettheatre.org

Jeff Daniels: Onstage & Unplugged $75; $250 for the 8 p.m. NYE show. The Purple Rose Theatre Company, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Dec. 26 - Dec. 31. 734-433-7673. www.purplerosetheatre.org

Jersey Boys $34-$94. Fisher Theatre, 3011 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Through Jan. 6. 313-872-1000. www.broadwayindetroit.com

Plaid Tidings $26-$32. The Encore Musical Theatre Company, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Through Dec. 23. 734-268-6200. www.theencoretheatre.org

Snowflake $20 adult, $15 senior & student, $5 child. The Croswell, 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian. 2:30 p.m. Dec. 23. 517-264-7469. www.croswell.org

The SantaLand Diaries & Season's Greetings $10-$20. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Dec. 20 - 23. 248-545-5545. www.TheRingwald.com

The Snow Queen $10 adult, $5 child. PuppetArt at Detroit Puppet Theater, 25 E. Grand River Ave., Detroit. Through Jan. 26. 313-961-7777. www.PuppetArt.org

This Wonderful Life $30. Tipping Point Theatre, 361 E. Cady St., Northville. Dec. 21 - 31. 248-347-0003. www.tippingpointtheatre.com

Twist This! $10. Torch with a Twist at Hastings Street Ballroom, 715 E Milwaukee St., Detroit. Dec. 22. 313-873-2955 . www.torchwithatwist.com

Twisted Xmas: A Druid's View of the Holidays $20. The Acorn Theater, 107 Generations Dr., Three Oaks. 8 p.m. Dec. 21. 269-756-3879. www.acorntheater.com

What A Do Theatre Holiday Cabaret Fundraiser $20 minimum donation. What A Do Theatre, 4071 W Dickman Road, Springfield. 8 p.m. Dec. 21. 269-282-1953. www.whatado.org

ART'N'AROUND

Charles H. Wright Museum "Visions of Our 44th President" 315 E. Warren, Detroit. Nov. 1 - April 30.313-494-5853. Thewright.org

Cranbrook Art Museum "From Here to There: Alec Soth's America" 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 17 - March 30.877-462-7262. CranbrookArtMuseum.org

Cranbrook Art Museum "Soo Sunny Park: Vapor Slide" 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Nov. 17 - March 17.877-462-7262. CranbrookArtMuseum.org

Flint Institute of Arts "Worth a Thousand Words: American Political Cartoons" 1120 E. Kearsley, Flint. Nov. 3 - Jan. 6. Flintarts.org

Flint Institute of Arts "Drawing Together: International Cartoons" 1120 E. Kearsley, Flint. Nov. 1 - Dec. 30. Flintarts.org

Grand Rapids Art Museum "Real/Surreal" 101 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids. Nov. 1 - Jan. 13.616-831-2904. ArtMuseumGr.org

Grand Rapids Art Museum "Salvador Dali's Twelve Tribes of Israel" 101 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids. Nov. 1 - Jan. 13.616-831-2904. ArtMuseumGr.org

Grand Rapids Art Museum "Robert McCann: New History Paintings" 101 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids. Nov. 1 - Jan. 13.616-831-2904. ArtMuseumGr.org

Kalamazoo Institute of Arts "Treasures from Kalamazoo Collections" 314 S. Park , Kalamazoo. Nov. 17 - Feb. 17.269-349-7775. KlArts.org

Kalamazoo Institute of Arts "Great Lakes Pastel Society National Show 2012" 314 S. Park, Kalamazoo. Nov. 1 - Jan. 8.269-349-7775. KlArts.org

Lawrence Street Gallery "Think Small" 22620 Woodward Ave. Suite A, Ferndale. Dec. 1 - Dec. 22.248-544-0394. Lawrencestreetgallery.com

Michigan State University Museum "An Interwoven Christmas" Michigan State University, East Lansing. Dec. 1 - Jan. 13. Museum.msu.edu

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit "Vision in a Cornfield" 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 7 - Dec. 30.313-832-6622. Mocadetroit.org

Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit "Voice of the City" 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Oct. 2 - March 31.313-832-6622. MOCADetroit.org

The Detroit Institute of Arts "Faberge: The Rise & Fall" 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Nov. 1 - Jan. 21.313-833-7900. DIA.org

The Henry Ford Museum "Holidays in Henry Ford Museum" 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. Dec. 1 - Jan. 6.313-982-6001. TheHenryFord.org

University of Michigan Museum of Art "Benjamin West: General Wolfe and the Art of the Empire" 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Sep. 22 - Jan. 13.734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu

Editor's Pick

If you're allergic to shopping malls, excessive commercialism or egg nog, The Ringwald Theatre has the perfect solution to restore a smile to your overburdened holidays. Opening Dec. 20 for an exclusive four-day engagement is the return of the comedic duo of "The SantaLand Diaries & Season's Greetings" from award-winning humorist David Sedaris and adapted for the stage by acclaimed director Joe Mantello. And audiences will be delighted to hear Joe Bailey and Joe Plambeck will return in this local holiday favorite.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 20 through Saturday, Dec. 22, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 23.

Tickets are $10 (Thursday), $20 (Friday and Saturday) and $15 (Sunday). Tickets can be purchased at www.TheRingwald.com or at the theatre box office. The Ringwald box office opens 45 minutes before performances.

The Ringwald Theatre is located at 22742 Woodward Avenue in the Times Square of Ferndale.

Hear Me Out

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

Ke$ha Demonstrates Staying Power On 'Warrior'

Ke$ha, 'Warrior'

She's tweeted a pic of her dildo "boyfriend" and written songs about getting drunk, stripping naked and getting hit on by old dudes. But Ke$ha's 15 minutes aren't over. With 12 songs that stretch her once-limited scope of dance music – both her debut and its follow-up, the "Cannibal" EP, underwent so much post-production vocal manipulation she was more robotic than a robot – "Warrior" is a game-changer for the polarizing party girl. Now, her voice is raw – and she's using it to reveal more than late-night binge drinking. "Die Young" is the kind of celebratory live-before-you-can't-anymore song that gave her a name, but even then, there's an unassuming maturity: She's young but not blind to her own mortality. It's a recurring theme. Self-empowering reckless abandon runs through "Crazy Kids" like it wants to lure Gaga's Little Monsters. The whistling is definitely in Ke$ha's favor. "Love into the Light" has "for the gays" written all over it. It's a dear-diary song until the chorus, when it surges from dark-alley confessional into an '80s power ballad that asks us to "forget about the hate." That chorus is one of the best things I've heard all year. Hell, the entire album is, from The Strokes cameo on "Only Wanna Dance With You" to demystifying the fairy-tale life on "Wonderland." "Warrior" is pop crack for a generation of rebels, wallflowers and the people who don't understand them. *Grade: A-*

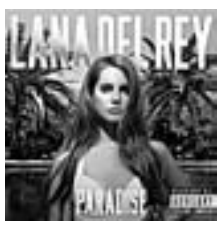
Alicia Keys, 'Girl on Fire'

It's called "Girl on Fire," but when does Alicia Keys' new album ignite? When do these sparks become flames? It just takes a while. Keys' first disc since 2009's "The Element of Freedom" opens with her moment of emancipation and self-actualization on the piano lifter "Brand New Me" – from what, who knows, since it could be citing motherhood, label changes … or that cute new hairdo. Whatever she's referencing, it's sung with a seething passion that has her blazing with emotion. You can practically see the fire in her face. These Alicia-at-the-piano moments – of which there are many on "Girl on Fire" – tend not to cast Keys as "brand new;" instead, they're subtle reinventions that tweak the soul-sister style she's been honing since "Songs in A Minor" was released 11 years ago. Some of it's easy to write off: "New Day" has the beat but could've been written by anyone who likes to string party clichés together, and let's just say reggae – where she takes "Limitedless" – ain't her thing. The slight but vocally powerful "That's When I Knew" refreshingly tries on some lo-fi acoustics, while electro drums swash the John Legend-scribed "Listen to Your Heart." But it's no surprise that she's best when she holds tight to her roots: "Tears Always Win" is an old-school heartbreaker that's got everything but a pint of Ben & Jerry's. If you let it, the rest of "Girl on Fire" will burn inside your soul, too. *Grade: B*

Also Out

Rihanna, 'Unapologetic'

Another year, another Rihanna album. Coming off the dreadfully DOA "Talk That Talk," she falls back into the darkness of her biggest commercial flop – but my personal favorite – "Rated R." On "Diamonds," RiRi just can't tap into the emotional tide of a song that requires so much more than she gives. It doesn't help that Sia's songwriting here is almost juvenile. Love's complications are better probed during "Lost in Paradise," so good it could've been on "Rated R." "Jump" pulsates into a glorious sexy-time song, but it's the ballads that really surprise: Just piano accompanies her during the touching "Stay." "Unapologetic" is Rihanna's most complicated outing – accepting the bad with the good, giving in when she knows she shouldn't. This is love in a hopeless place.



Lana Del Rey, 'Paradise'

When Lana Del Rey took her prime-time debut on "SNL" as seriously as a fifth grade talent show, people wondered: What the hell? Her authenticity was questioned like it mattered (because every pop star is all real, you know), but Del Rey – fake or not – had an alluring magnetism in that Marilyn Monroe sultriness and the pop noir of her phenomenal debut, "Born to Die." Whoever she was, it was fascinating. That same mystique on "Paradise," an eight-song EP, is still relatively potent – with its night-drive vibe, "Ride" works best – but it also reveals her stagnating artistry. Just about all the songs lilt and wisp and have deceivingly pretty strings flowing through them like they should accompany a "Fatal Attraction" sequel. A fake career can survive; a lifeless one cannot.

MICHIGAN HUMANE SOCIETY

Meet Cece!

This shy but sweet Shepherd mix is 4-years-old and fully grown at 49 pounds. She loves to walk and play fetch, and the right person will find her to be a smart and loving companion. Ready to meet your new best friend? Come meet her today! The adoption fee includes sterilization, age-appropriate vaccinations, the MHS Adoption Guarantee and much more.

For more information, please visit or call the MHS Rochester Hills Center for Animal Care at (248) 852-7420 and provide the pet ID number, 732877. Photo courtesy Heidi Waeschle-Gabel.

Pet of the Week made possible by
Patterson Dog & Cat Hospital
3800 Grand River Ave., Detroit
313-832-7282
www.pattersondogandcat.com

Classifieds

To place a classified ad with us, visit PRIDESOURCE.COM/classifieds or call us at 888.615.7003 x15

101-ANNOUNCEMNTS LGBT AA MEETINGS

Ann Arbor-Friday

7:30 pm, St. Andrews Episcopal Church Gay AA, 306 N. Division St. Closed/Discussion.

Bloomfield Hills-Thursday

7:00 pm ,Sobriety in The Hills Gay AA, Kirk in The Hills Church, 1340 W. Long Lake Rd. Closed/Discussion.

Detroit-Tuesday / Friday

8:00 pm, Downtown Gay AA, Fort Street Presbyterian Church, 631 West Fort St. Closed/Discussion (Open 1st Friday of every month).

Farmington Hills-Monday

8:00 pm, Suburban West Gay AA, Universalist Unitarian Church, 25301 Halstead (Between 10 & 11 Mile Roads) Closed / Discussion.

Ferndale-Monday / Wednesday / Friday

11:30 a.m., Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.

Ferndale-Wednesday

8 p.m., Diversity Wednesday Gay AA, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 540 W. Lewiston @ Livernois. Closed/Discussion.

Ferndale-Saturday

1 p.m. Brown Baggers Gay AA, Affirmations, 290 West 9 Mile Rd. Closed/Discussion.

8 p.m. Go After Your Sobriety Gay AA, Drayton Ave Presbyterian Church, 2441 Pinecrest. Closed/Discussion.

Livonia-Friday

8 p.m., West Side Story's Gay AA, Providence Medical Center, 7 Mile & Newburgh. Closed/Discussion.

Warren-Monday

7:30 p.m., Eastside Serenity Gay AA, Faith-Trinity United Church of Christ, 12221 Martin Rd. East of Hoover. Closed/Discussion.

101-ANNOUNCEMNTS LGBT AL-ANON MEETINGS

Diversity Wednesday Al-Anon Family Group

Wednesday 8pm
St. Luke's Parrish Hall (in basement)
Lewiston & Livernois, Ferndale MI
Closed Meeting

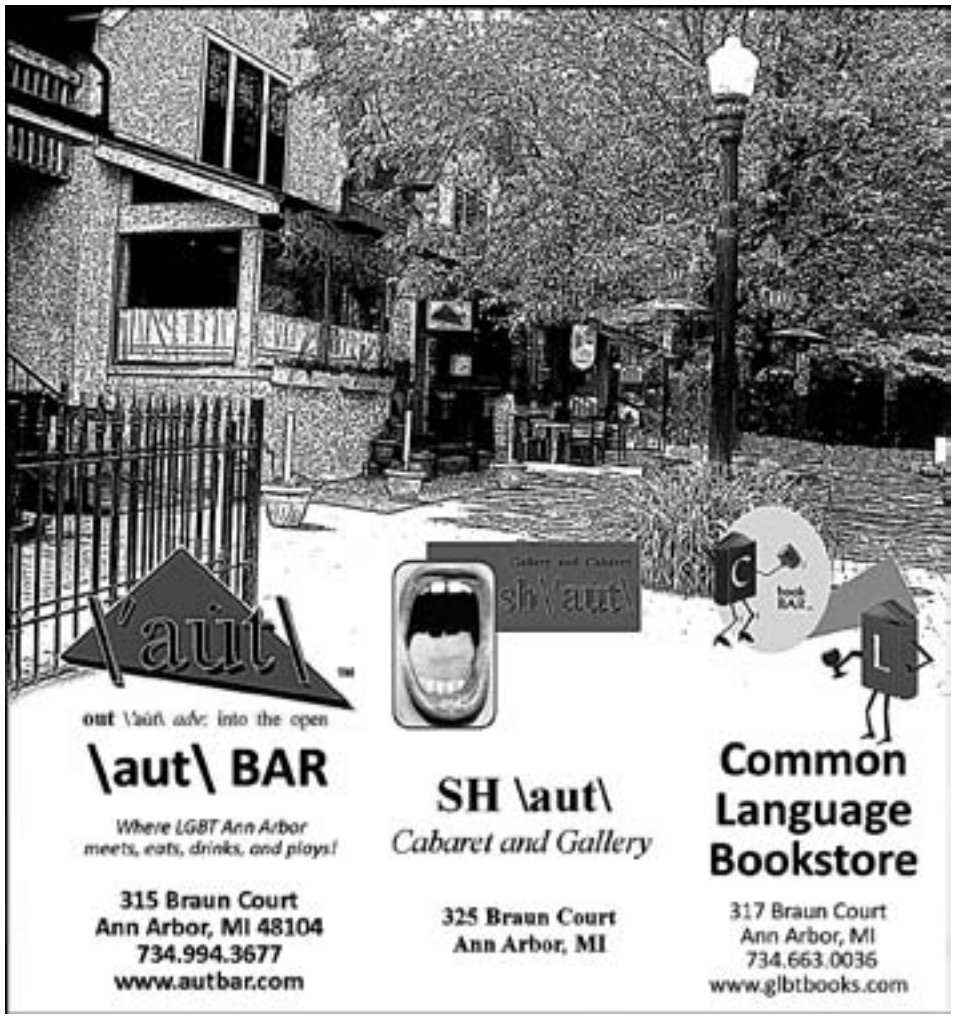
Go After Your Serenity (G.A.Y.S.) Al-Anon Family Group

Saturday's 8pm
Drayton Ave. Presbyterian Church (in basement)
Pinecrest & Drayton, Ferndale
Closed Meeting

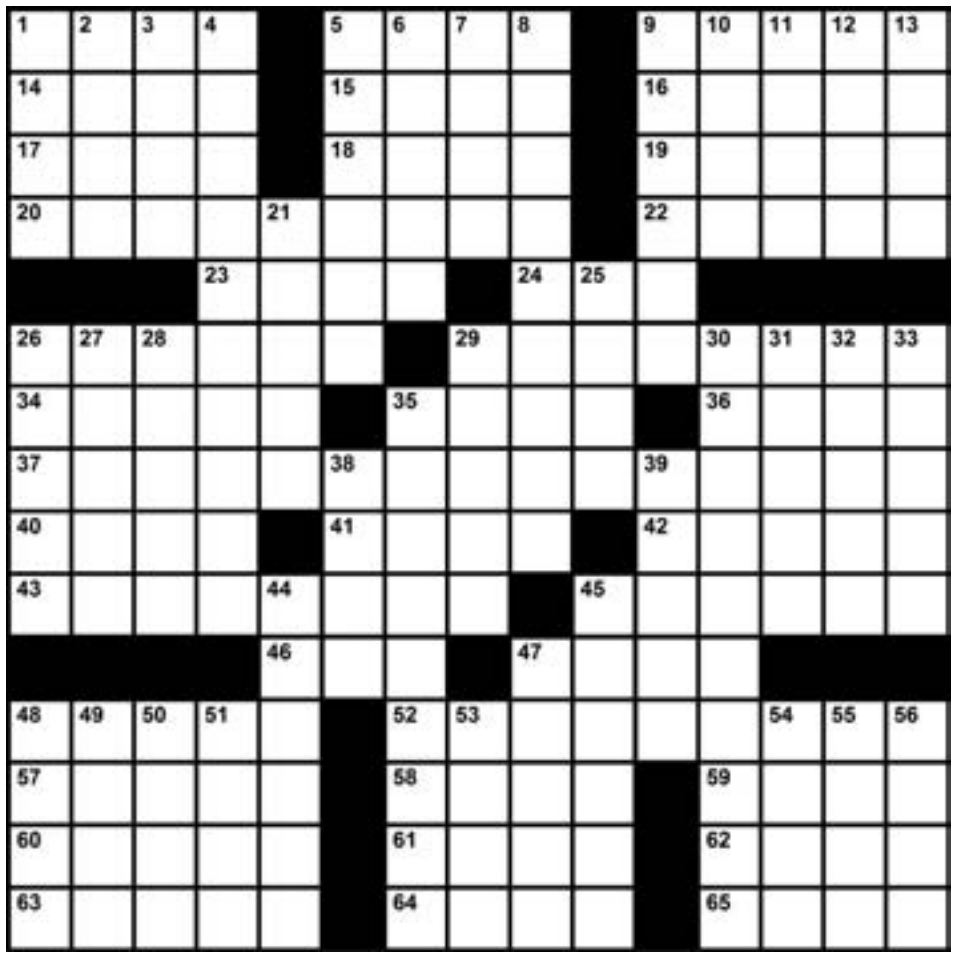
See Classifieds, page 28

Naked Men's YOGA
Meets in Ann Arbor
TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS 6:30-7:30 PM
Contact Dave at massage4@aol.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/michigan_mens_clothing_optional_yoga

OPEN EVERYDAY MON - SAT 10AM - 1AM SUNDAY 11AM - 10PM
7041 W. 8 MILE 1 MILE WEST of WOODWARD 313-340-1730
50% OFF XXX DVD's!
LOOK FOR THE 50% OFF STICKER ON 100's OF TITLES & SAVE!!!
HARD CORE PORN
Cash &
BUY ANY 2 XXX DVD's GET A $4.95 DVD FREE!!
(excluding 50% Off special)
JOIN OUR "TEAM PORN" RENTAL CLUB FREE!!
(see store or website for details)
BLUE MOON VIDEO/DVD
SALES & RENTALS
www.bluemoonvideodvd.com



Brazen Britches



Across

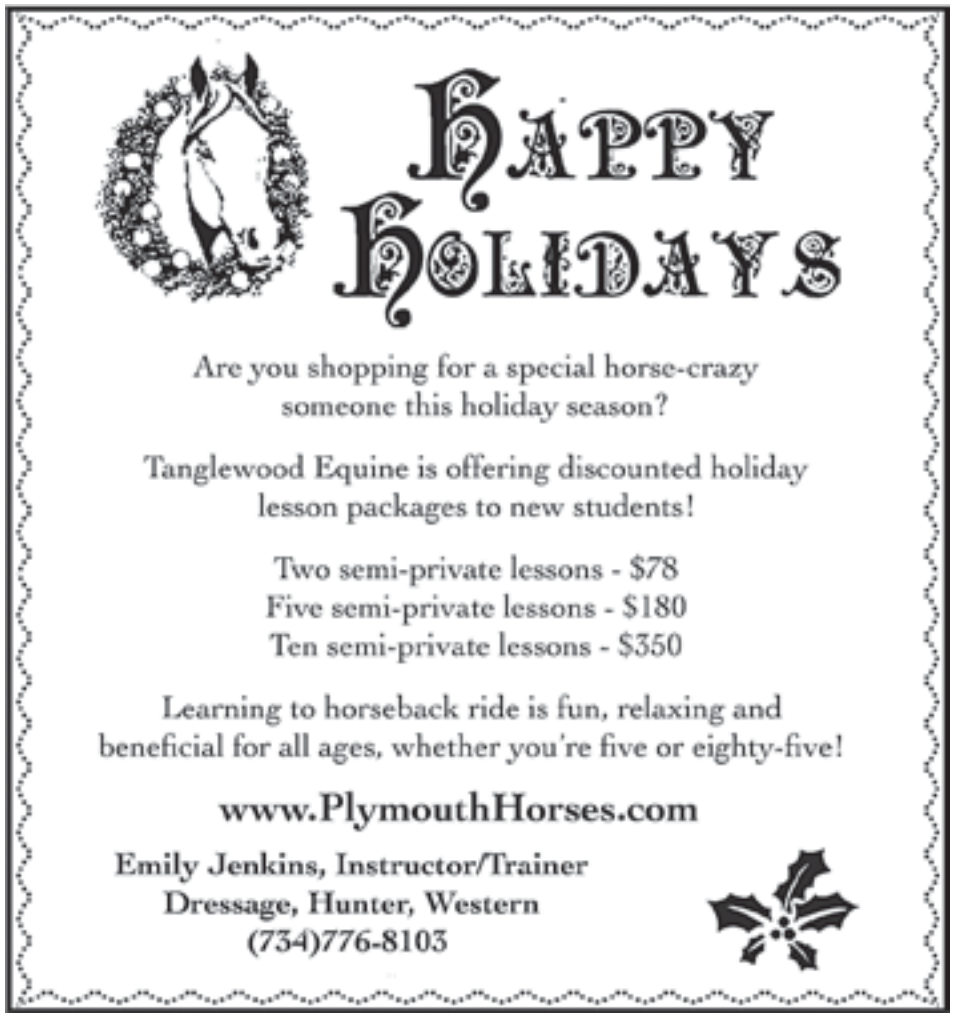
1 Barrie's getting on in years
5 Cop's target
9 Isn't quite straight
14 Chinese dynasty
15 Jump for Doug Mattis
16 Bear
17 Hump on the beach
18 Rowlands of film
19 "The Lion King" protagonist
20 Character of 22-/48-Across
22 With 48-Across, "brazen britches," or film comedy of 2012
23 Least of the litter
24 Halloween cry
26 Straddling
29 Stops to unzip and go
34 Pain in the neck
35 Get soft
36 Ron Howard role
37 Actor who plays 20-Across
40 Has debts
41 Ticks off
42 Pound poem part
43 Seamen running down the deck
45 Jude Law in "Sherlock Holmes"
46 "That's ___ quit!"
47 Woody Guthrie's son
48 See 22-Across
52 Writer/director of 22-/48-Across
57 Spacey's "The ___ Suspects"
58 Trials and tribulations
59 Milk go-with
60 Free, in France
61 Very much
62 What Israelis may shoot off
63 Stays hard
64 "Over my dead body!" and such
65 Sweater?

Down

1 Bi
2 "Not on a bet!"
3 Anderson of TV
4 Just treatment, to B.D. Wong on "SVU"
5 Socrates and Caesar
6 Bring to bear
7 Tear apart
8 Broadway souvenirs
9 Gay rodeo accessories
10 Film director Kazan
11 Cathedral of Hope collection
12 Important Brits
13 Go to and fro
21 Sled dog
25 Palindromic fellow
26 Sound of a sudden, involuntary discharge
27 Go on all fours
28 Het up
29 Practices voyeurism
30 Warhol subject
31 Responds like welcoming thighs
32 Bicolor mount
33 ___ Hall University
35 Michael C. Hall on "Six Feet Under"
38 Leave at the alter
39 Like snakeskin
44 Controversial paths for same-sex partners
45 Snatches
47 Pewter or brass
48 Word on a door
49 Bangkok continent
50 Worn-down pencils
51 Pastry with fruit, perhaps
53 Earthenware pot
54 Soup pasta
55 Name in a will
56 What Sam twitched on "Bewitched"

Solution on pg. 28

just 4 us
Celebrating over a decade serving the GLBT community
LUBE • DVDS • TOYS • GIFTS
MAGAZINES • SANDWICHES • COFFEE BAR
CARDS • BOOKS • GOODIES • FLAGS
JEWELRY • APPAREL • AND MORE!
DON'T FORGET TO
SHOP SMALL BUSINESS!
ONE SMALL PURCHASE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE
KINK WEAR
NOW AVAILABLE!
MILITARY • LEATHER • UNIFORMS
MI ONLY AUTHORIZED COLT DISTRIBUTOR
PROUD JUSTUS BOYZ RETAILER
LARGEST SELECTION OF
LIQUID INCENSE
LOWEST PRICE AROUND!
RIZE TO THE OCCASION • VIGRALIS
STIFF NIGHTS • MAX STAMINA & MORE!
DVDS
OVER 1600 TITLES AVAILABLE TO RENT
OVER 1400
GBLT GREETING CARDS IN STOCK!
WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF
pink
LUBRICANT
WE SELL GRRLTOYZ
SPECIAL ORDER YOUR TOYS
LELO
TOYZ MADE BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN
www.shopjust4us.com
Like Us on Facebook!
Now you can shop online! Visit our site today and be the first to know about exclusive discounts, new items and more!
HOURS:
Monday-Saturday 11am-8pm • Sunday 11am-6pm
211 West Nine Mile Road • Ferndale, MI 48220 • 248.547.5878


HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Are you shopping for a special horse-crazy someone this holiday season?
Tanglewood Equine is offering discounted holiday lesson packages to new students!
Two semi-private lessons - $78
Five semi-private lessons - $180
Ten semi-private lessons - $350
Learning to horseback ride is fun, relaxing and beneficial for all ages, whether you're five or eighty-five!
www.PlymouthHorses.com
Emily Jenkins, Instructor/Trainer
Dressage, Hunter, Western
(734)776-8103

Classifieds

Continued from p. 26

301 EMPLOYMENT - GENERAL

Male Needed With Computer Experience

Blind gay male needs male computer person with experience in installing hardware and software, including speech/reading programs. Call Ray 313-581-0888

428 PROF. SERVICES - MASSAGE

GROUP MASSAGE

- For Gay and Bisexual Men. Learn some massage techniques and meet others in a safe and caring environment. Tuesdays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Thursdays at 2 p.m. $10 per session. 209 West Kingsley in downtown Ann Arbor. (734) 662-6282 or email Massage4@aol.com. http://www.trymassage.com

Professional Swedish

Auburn Hills
Kansonn
248-672-0669
kanrubu@yahoo.com

A Couple of guys
SPECIAL GIFTS for JIM
THAT'S PRETTY EXPENSIVE...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO SPEND SO MUCH ON THAT GUY?
WE'LL PROBABLY GET YOU SOME CHEAP LITTLE TRINKET
WHAT AN AWFUL ATTITUDE!
IT'S CHRISTMAS! IT SHOULDN'T MATTER WHAT YOU GET IN RETURN - THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO BRING JOY TO OTHERS.
REMEMBER, ERIC! IT'S BETTER TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE.
THAT'S BIG TALK COMIN' FROM A RECEIVER LIKE YOU!
DISCOUNT GIFTS!
CLOSEOU

To place a classified ad with us, visit PRIDESOURCE.COM/classifieds or call us at 888.615.7003 x15

Solution to puzzle from page 27

A	U	L	D		P	E	R	P		L	E	A	N	S
C	H	O	U		A	X	E	L		A	L	L	O	W
D	U	N	E		G	E	N	A		S	I	M	B	A
C	H	I	P	H	A	R	D	Y		S	A	S	S	Y
			R	U	N	T		B	O	O				
A	C	R	O	S	S		P	I	T	S	T	O	P	S
C	R	I	C	K		M	E	L	T		O	P	I	E
H	A	L	E	Y	J	O	E	L	O	S	M	E	N	T
O	W	E	S		I	R	K	S		C	A	N	T	O
O	L	D	S	A	L	T	S		W	A	T	S	O	N
				I	T	I		A	R	L	O			
P	A	N	T	S		C	O	L	E	Y	S	O	H	N
U	S	U	A	L		I	L	L	S		O	R	E	O
L	I	B	R	E		A	L	O	T		U	Z	I	S
L	A	S	T	S		N	A	Y	S		P	O	R	E

My Boxer Has A Secret

Dating Diet

BY ANTHONY PAULL

Please take custody of my furry, four-legged child. I'm an awful parent. For years, I've been trying to convince the world my dog is gay, and I must be stopped. It's neither safe nor fair to force any animal in the wild kingdom – whether a dog, a man or a combination of both – out of the closet until it's good and ready. Still, I find great difficulty in attempting to abandon my ill-received beliefs.

"I'm worried about Champ. I think he's depressed. He never shakes his tail anymore. Do you think he needs a boyfriend?" I asked my dad at dinner last week.

"Jesus Christ!" my dad yelled, pushing away his plate. "That's all you ever talk about. Gay this! Gay that! You're gonna put the wrong idea in that poor dog's head. He's fine. He's happy."

Dad, an avid believer that being gay is nothing more than a bad choice, has this silly preconceived notion that someone can turn gay solely by being accused of it. That's why Champ is never allowed in the room when his sexual preference is questioned. He might hear us, and the curse might spread!

"Admit it, Dad. Champ's wrists have always been a tad limp," I said.

"He has arthritis."

"Well, what about the time he tried to mount me..."

"That's it. I'm done talking," Dad said, excusing himself from the table.

Fine, I admit it. The topic at hand is completely ridiculous, but the endless debate over my boxer, Champ, in regard to his feminine side is a dish served hot when compared to discussing the rest of my family's problems. In short, Champ allows a chance for dad and me to air out our differing viewpoints regarding the topic of homosexuality in a neutral, non-personal climate.

To be honest, I take the blame for starting the whole rumor about Champ being gay. And yes, I was the wicked one who secretly began calling him "Cocoa" upon his arrival. Silly me, I thought it would make him more comfortable in his clearly queer skin to have a more feminine stage name. "He's a total bottom," I would boast to my friends. Well, that's until the day "Cocoa" tried to top me when I was doing push-ups in the garage. It was harmless, really. Sure, he lacked balls and couldn't find the hole, but I had dealt with boys like that before. Still, I was confused.

"Does that make him a top?" I asked my dad.

"Stop that nonsense! He's a dog for God's sake. He's indiscriminate. He'd stick it in a light socket if he thought he could live through it."

"Yeah, that's what straight America would like you to believe," I replied.

You see, I'd been doing Internet research, and Google.com made it easy for me to find out the truth about cats, dogs and the other beautiful, gay critters in this beautiful, gay world.

In little time, I'd learned that Norway is the only country brave enough to tackle the controversial subject of citing homosexuality throughout the animal kingdom. In 2004, the Norwegian government felt the country's museums and libraries should question taboo subjects, and it happened at the Natural Museum at Oslo. Revealing the world's first exhibit (Against Nature?) on gay animals, the museum had such startling visuals as a photograph of penis-fencing whales and an 1896 sketch of two barebacking, male scarab beetles.

> *"'He's a total bottom,' I would boast to my friends. Well, that's until the day 'Cocoa' tried to top me when I was doing push-ups in the garage. It was harmless, really. Sure, he lacked balls and couldn't find the hole, but I had dealt with boys like that before. Still, I was confused."*

Discussing the exhibit in a 2007 Times Online article, scientific advisor Petter Bockman states "the facts have been staring scientists in the face for years." Researchers ignore the behavior because "they fear ridicule or loss of their grants if they draw attention to it."

On the Internet, many people commenting on homosexuality in dogs pass off the public display of affection as an act of dominance. Some suggest male dogs tend to "befriend" other male dogs when access to a female is denied. But would they say the same about gay men if we hadn't the chance to vocally refuse the idea?

As for dad, he believes Champ just hasn't met the right girl. When playing in the neighborhood, I see how much he prefers male company though. Sure, he'll interact with females, but he never allows them too close; he'd much rather dress one than mount one, I believe. Still, I don't say anything to Champ about these candid observations. After all, I wouldn't want to put the wrong idea in his head.

THE FINEST IN ADULT ENTERTAINMENT AT THE BEST PRICES!
CASTING COUCH vol. 10
MEDITERRANEAN STAG
AYOR
KEVIN
ALL XXX DVD RENTALS AS LOW AS 99¢ EVERY DAY!
BUY ADULT DVD'S STARTING AT $5.95
EVERY TUES & FRIDAY NEW RELEASE DAY
DEC. 24TH THRU DEC 30TH, 2012
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
3/$9.99
XXX DVD'S WHILE THEY LAST
Rush - Jungle Juice Platinum - Maximum Impact - Swiss Navy Lube Silicone - Uninhibited 2-Ring Harness - Wii Vibe - Lucid Dreams #14 - Dual Bunny Teaser - Butterfly Kiss Pink - Titan Englargment System - The Exotic Water Garden Massager
UPTOWN
BOOKSTORES
ADULT VIDEO
2 LOCATIONS
WWW.UPTOWNADULTVIDEOS.COM
16541 Woodward Ave.
at McNichols next to "Deja Vu"
Highland Park
313.869.9477
16401 W. 8 Mile
Between Greenfield & Southfield
Detroit
313.836.0647
Hours:
Mon-Sat 9am - 10pm
Sun Noon - 8pm

Cocktail Chatter

Without Ice, Part 2

BY ED SIKOV

When last we left our fearful columnist, he was attempting to transliterate his wretched Harry Beaton imitation into print. Harry, of course, is the character from the musical "Brigadoon" who threatens to leave the quaint, out-of-time village in Scotland and therefore bring ruin to all who inhabit it. The subject, perhaps needless to say, was Scotch – the whiskey, not the people of Scotland – and its ability to be enjoyed without that critical electricity-dependent product known as ice. The scars left by Hurricane Sandy include billions of dollars in reconstruction costs and this writer's inability to get beyond cocktails best served neat. I was traumatized, dammit! Cut me some slack!

Scotch served my husband, Dan, and me well for the second and third nights of Sandy-induced powerlessness. But by Evening Four, we'd both grown a little tired of even my favorite single malt, Talisker. I'd been careful to stock the bar in the days before Sandy swept in, and in retrospect, I think I'd been steered to the Scotch department unconsciously by the name "Sandy": "Now all of ye come to Sandy here/ Come over to Sandy's booth!/ I'm sellin' the sweetest candy here/ That ever shook loose a tooth!" (Guess that musical! I'm sorry. I can't help it.) So we turned westward to the Emerald Isle.

No, I don't mean the National Rental Car desk at our nearest airport. I mean Ireland, people! Leprechauns! The Stone of Scone! Joyce, Yeats, and Peter O'Toole! (As the great John Waters once observed: Peter O'Toole? That's as bad as Muffy O'Clit.)

Moving right along … Dan grunted unpleasantly when I suggested another Talisker at cocktail hour on the fourth evening of our forced confinement. We were down to eating unheated canned soup and tuna salad without the celery or mayonnaise. (OK, call it what it was: tuna straight from the can.) Our meal was grim, but cocktail hour was saved by the bottle of Jameson just waiting for an occasion to be opened. How I love the Irish!

Scotch, Canadian and Irish whiskey are all distilled from fermented grain mash; grains include barley, rye, wheat and corn, some of which are malted. (Malting involves halting the germination process by drying the grain with hot air.) Each nation's whiskey has its own particular taste, though, not only because the grain tastes different depending on the soil and climate of the country, but also because of differences in each liquor's aging as well as the type of grain itself. Typically (though not necessarily), Scottish whiskey crafters use peat smoke to dry the malt; characteristically – though again not necessarily – Canadian whiskey is brewed from corn. Irish whiskey, of which Jameson is the exemplar, is generally distilled from unpeated malt and has a faintly sweet aroma and taste. It's not as sweet as bourbon, but it's distinctly sweeter than Scotch.

Jameson, like any good whiskey, can be enjoyed on the rocks or neat. Dan and I had ours neat by necessity, there being no ice. There being no running water either, I might add, the two of us had begun to – how shall I put it? – stink. Given alcohol's marvelous ability to kill germs, perhaps we should have swabbed ourselves with Jameson, but that would have been reckless. So we each gave ourselves a "French whore's bath," meaning a quick wipe-down with a washcloth dipped in the bathtub we'd filled with water as a precaution before the storm hit. Later, we got into a little – um, well – rank piggy action under the influence of the whiskey. My, my, my! Who said smelly old dogs couldn't learn new tricks?

Art Moran.com

"GIVING OUR BEST TO YOU"

BUICK GMC MITSUBISHI

www.artmoran.com **Only Minutes From You** **248-353-9000**

2013 Verano

Lease For Only
$166 a month
24 month | 10,000 miles
$1,165 Due at Lease Signing

Stock #B6900Z
32 MPG, Turn by Turn Navigation, Sirus XM Stereo System, NO CHARGE Maintenance Plan.

2013 Terrain

Lease For Only
$199 a month
39 month | 10,000 miles
$1,198 Due at Lease Signing

Stock #T2530Z
32 MPG, Turn by Turn Navigation, 5 Passenger, OnStar, XM Stereo, Chrome Package

2012 Enclave

Lease For Only
$320 a month
39 month | 10,000 miles
$1,319 Due at Lease Signing

Stock #B8208Y
24 MPG, 7 Passenger, Leather, Sunroof, Turn by Turn Navigation.

2013 Sierra

Lease For Only
$262 a month
24 month | 10,000 miles
$1,261 Due at Lease Signing

Stock #T1692Z
HD Trailer Package, 20" Chrome Clad Wheels, CD Player w/ USB Port, Bluetooth, Chrome Mirrors & Door Handles

2013 LaCrosse

Lease For Only
$245 a month
24 month | 10,000 miles
$1,244 Due at Lease Signing

Stock #B4346Z
36 MPG, Turn by Turn Navigation, Sirus XM Stereo System, NO CHARGE Maintenance Plan.

2013 Acadia SLE

Lease For Only
$264 a month
39 month | 10,000 miles
$1,219 Due at Lease Signing

Stock #
24 mpg. 8 Passenger, OnStar, Turn by Turn Navigation

OPEN Saturdays 9am-3pm

Service Open Saturdays 8am-2pm

Art Moran will do whatever it takes!

GET OUT OF YOUR LEASE EARLY

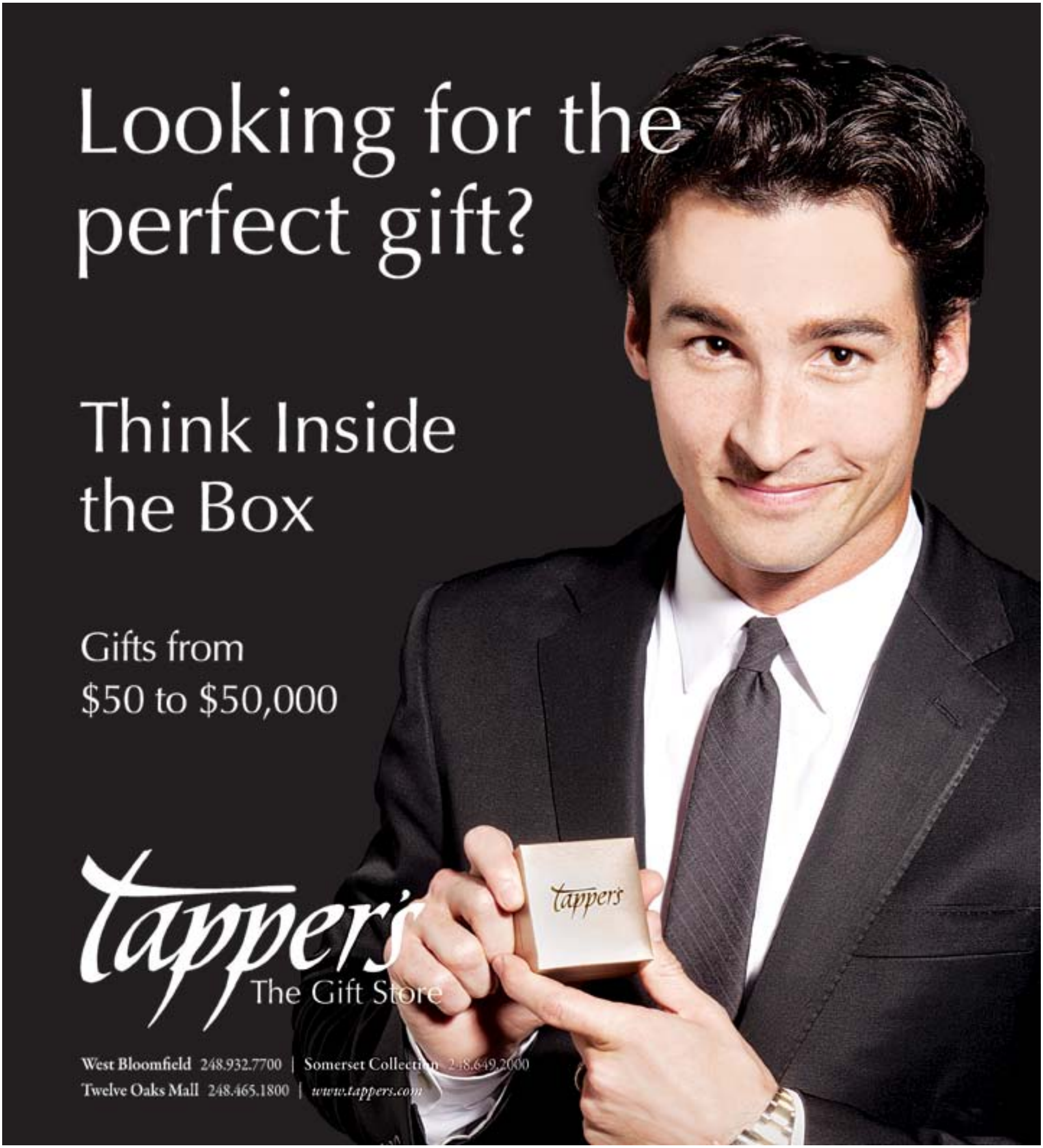
$1,000 over book value on your trade!

SERVICE CENTER
Servicing all makes and models

Body Shop
REPAIRING ALL MAKES AND MODELS. ON SITE RENTAL. WE WORK WITH ALL INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Shop Online, We Deliver! www.ArtMoran.com

Lease based on 10,000 miles per year, $999 cash down, plus tax, title, plates, ADM Fee, Doc. Must qualify for Ally and GM Financial Tier 1 approval for lease. Security deposit may be waved or nest $25 increment over payment. 25¢ over mileage charge. See dealer for details. Pictures may not represent vehicles. Expires 1-2-13.


Looking for the perfect gift?
Think Inside the Box
Gifts from $50 to $50,000
tappers
The Gift Store
tappers
West Bloomfield 248.932.7700 | Somerset Collection 248.649.2000
Twelve Oaks Mall 248.465.1800 | www.tappers.com